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U.S., SOVIET VIEWS ON 'NAVAL ARMS RACE' CONTRASTED

PM021335 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jun 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by Colonel General V. Lobov, first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff: "Peace and Stability for the World's Oceans"]

[Text] In the total confrontation policy being implemented by U.S. ruling circles and in their pursuit of military superiority over the Soviet Union and their neoglobalist aspirations, a prominent place is given to militarist activity in the world's oceans. "Turning the USSR into an isolated island" and "ensuring undivided U.S. control of the rest of the world" is the creed of Washington "hawks." Their viewpoint is shared and supported by the head of the current U.S. Administration himself. "Superiority at sea is a necessity for us," President R. Reagan said at the commissioning ceremony for the battleship New Jersey. "We must be able to control the air," he continued, "and above and below the sea surface in order to ensure access to all the world's oceans."

The U.S. so-called "new naval strategy," whose main provisions were formulated in the first half of the eighties and have formed the basis of the development and practical activity of U.S. naval forces since then, is designed to implement these political directives. It is part and parcel of the "direct confrontation" doctrine -- the overall U.S. military doctrine aimed, as is well known, at achieving "total and indisputable U.S. superiority" and "actively opposing the USSR across the board and in all parts of the world," including the high seas.

The main idea of the U.S. "naval strategy" is to implement "global and immediate deployment in the front lines" with a view to "containing the Soviet fleet" in its bases on the eve of a military conflict. To this end, it will be necessary to considerably enhance the USN's offensive potential, ensure its superiority at sea through quantitative and qualitative growth in its strike means, and establish control in all "vitally important" parts of the world -- the North Atlantic, the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and the Norwegian and Mediterranean Seas. U.S. naval forces must be prepared to conduct offensive operations against the Soviet Navy in the USSR's own territorial waters and hit targets located deep within its territory.

Those are the general targeted directives of the U.S. "naval strategy" -- its nucleus, so to speak. But that is not all. It also envisages specific actions on the high seas and oceans in both peacetime and wartime. It is believed that these actions will be subdivided into three main phases: the transition from deterrence to a show of force at the start of a confrontation, the seizing of the initiative, and, finally, the transfer of hostilities to Soviet territory. And even in the first phase -- that is, still in peacetime -- it is planned to site six or seven U.S. Navy carrier battle groups in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and between two and six such groups in the western Pacific and northern Indian Ocean. As for the third phase, the transfer of U.S. Navy strikes against Soviet territory will mean the use of nuclear devices.

All the above makes it easier to conclude that the "new naval strategy" of the United States will inevitably lead to an intensification of U.S. Navy aggressiveness, a growth in the level of the sides' military confrontation, and a heightened likelihood of military conflicts. The already fragile stability both within individual regions and on a global scale will be threatened. The world's oceans are turning more and more into the starting point for the unleashing of aggression against the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries, and young independent states pursuing an anti-imperialist policy not to Washington's liking, and into a springboard from which a first nuclear strike will be launched.

For it is a fact that around half of all U.S. strategic munitions are sited on nuclear missiie submarines, which are used for constant combat patrols in the world's oceans. There are around 40 such submarine missile platforms in service with the U.S. strategic offensive forces at any given time. They carry around 400 Trident-I ballistic missile delivery vehicles and more than 250 Poseidon C-3 delivery vehicles. These missiles are able to deliver nuclear charges yielding between 50 and 150 kilotons to targets thousands of miles away. Tests of the new sea-launched Trident-2 ballistic missile, with enhanced strike accuracy and warheads yielding up to 600 kilotons designed to inflict a so-called "disabling" strike -- that is, a first nuclear strike -- are now being conducted at an accelerated rate.

The United States is currently expediting the creation of a material base for the implementation of its "naval strategy." Particular attention is being devoted to building up U.S. general-purpose naval forces. Although the U.S. defense secretary's report to Congress "On the Fiscal 1988-89 Budget and the Defense Program in Fiscal 1988-92" specially stressed that already "on the whole the correlation of naval forces favors the United States," nonetheless major funds are being requested to continue carrying out the program to build a 600-ship Navy, which, in the Pentagon's opinion, would make it possible to resolve the task of "responsibility for three oceans." By 1990, it is planned to have 15 aircraft carriers -- 6 of them nuclear -- in service and to replenish the Navy with other types of ships. This will make it possible to deploy even more powerful U.S. Navy groups than at present in "forward positions" -- that is, close to Soviet borders. Their nucleus will be comprised of carrier battle groups and tactical [operativnyy] missile and surface-ship hunter-killer groups. It is planned that the forward-based groups will include Los Angeles and Sturgeon class multirole nuclear submarines. Twenty-five such craft together with 14 surface ships have already been equipped with long-range cruise missiles. By the mid-nineties it is planned to bring the number of such missiles fitted to various types up to approximately 4,000 -- with more than 750 of them being nuclear-tipped. The United States has already set up hundreds of naval and air bases in virtually all parts of the globe in order to deploy, service, and provide backup for the combat activity of this entire armada.

The naval arms race launched by the United States by no means promotes security and stability in the world's oceans. It is no secret that the United States along with its allies has already concentrated naval battle groups comparable in size with wartime groups in the Atlantic and the Pacific. Other U.S. actions -- its "gunboat diplomacy," which in our day and age could more accurately be called "aircraft carrier diplomacy" -- also create serious dangers. The annals of imperialism's bloody crimes include such aggressive acts as the 1983 shelling of the Lebanese coast by the large 16-inch guns on the battleship New Jersey and the strikes by U.S. aircraft -- including deck-borne aircraft -- against peaceful Libyan cities and other targets in March and April 1986. The U.S. Navy's provocative actions in the Eastern Mediterranean this January, when, on the pretext of the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, a massive buildup of U.S. 6th Fleet ships was concentrated in the area, are still fresh in the memory.

Particular concern is currently aroused by the expansion of the U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf and the northern part of the Arabian Sea. Using the shelling of the frigate Stark as a pretext, Washington has sent additional warships into an already explosive region, is keeping the carrier Constellation on combat standby in the region, is threatening to strike against Iran, and is seeking the right to site its aircraft on the territories of a number of coastal Arab states.

The events in the Persian Gulf, thousands of miles away from the U.S. coast and arbitrarily declared by Washington to be a "vitally important" zone for the United States, have again demonstrated with utter clarity the acute need to strive to stabilize the situation in the world's oceans, to limit military activities on the high seas, and to safeguard the security of the world's sea lanes and air routes. All this will undoubtedly lead to a strengthening of the peace and security of the world's peoples, will increase the level of confidence in relations among states, and will promote the development of peaceful international cooperation.

It is possible to resolve this task? Yes, it is. The Soviet Union has repeatedly indicated this. Our country has put forward a range of far-reaching proposals in line with the interests of all states and peoples aimed at limiting naval activity and naval arms. These proposals were set out by the Soviet side at the UN Disarmament Commission session held last May.

What is the Soviet Union proposing? First and foremost, to limit the spread of nuclear weapons on the high seas and oceans and to withdraw them altogether from certain waters -- the Indian Ocean an the Mediterranean, for instance. It proposes that the nuclear powers institute the practice of giving notification that their ships are not carrying nuclear weapons in agreed sea and ocean areas free from nuclear weapons. It proposes that measures to reduce the military presence in the South Atlantic and to ensure the nondeployment there of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weaponry be discussed with the United States and the other major naval powers. Finally, it proposes discussing the question of providing guarantees of the security of shipping in pecetime (the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans, the Persian Gulf, international straits, and so forth).

Even the list of these proposals shows how important they are and what a favorable effect they would have on the situation not only on the high seas and oceans but worldwide. And other, earlier, Soviet initiatives are still on the agenda, too. More than 3 years ago now, the Soviet Union advocated in particular limiting numbers of the main types of warship; introducing restrictions on submarine forces and means; discussing mesures with regard to naval bases on foreign territory; reducing the number of ships in the major powers' fleets (aircraft carriers and others) on a balanced basis; and agreeing confidence-building measures with regard to naval activity designed to promote the prevention of conflict situations.

The proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Vladivostok 28 July 1986 and in Delhi 27 November 1986 also drew an extensive worldwide response. In Vladivostok, it was proposed to reduce the activeness of naval fleets -- first and foremost ships equipped with nuclear weapons -- in the Pacific. It was pointed out that the strengthening of stability would promote limitations on rivalry in the sphere of ASW [antisubmarine warfare] weapons, and, in particular, would be conducive to an agreement on refraining from ASW activity in certain parts of the Pacific. It was stressed that if the United States abandoned its military presence in the Philippines, for instance, we would not be found wanting.

Just 4 months later in Delhi, an extensive program to demilitarize the Indian Ocean and turn it into a zone of peace was set forth. It was a question of Soviet readiness to start talks at any time on substantially reducing the numbers and activity of naval forces in the Indian Ocean, holding talks on confidence-building measures in the military sphere with regard to Asia and adjacent Pacific and Indian Ocean regions, participating in multilateral talks among all states using the Indian Ocean with a view to elaborating guarantees of the safety of shipping -- including in the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz and Molucca -- and discussing other states' proposals for ensuring peace in the Indian Ocean.

The Soviet Union has put forward the same wide-ranging ideas on the question of turning the Mediterranean into a zone of lasting peace and cooperation. The USSR is prepared to extend agreed confidence-building measures to this area, is striving for armed forces reductions in the region and the withdrawal of ships equipped with nuclear weapons from the Mediterranean Sea, and advocates that such weapons not be sited on the territories of the Mediterranean nonnuclear countries and that the nuclear powers pledge not to use such weapons against any other state in the region which will not permit their siting on its territory. If the United States withdrew its fleet from the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union would simultaneously follow suit. "In short," M.S. Gorbachev pointed out, "the Soviet Union does not lack goodwill. We are open to any constructive ideas aimed at real disarmament."

How has the United States, to whom these proposals were primarily addressed, reacted? Unfortunately, it has to be said that on various fabricated pretexts the United States has either rejected a discussion of the Soviet proposals, has pretended that it has not noticed them, or has delayed talks in every possible way and sought to ensure that they do not elaborate the planned agreements. That, for instance, is what happened to the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean. These started back in 1977, and definite progress was achieved. But then, through the fault of the United States, the talks were broken off and have still not been resumed.

However, sooner or later all these questions -- like the other questions of safeguarding international security and preventing nuclear war -- will have to be resolved. That is the call of the time, that is the will of the peoples. And the Soviet Union -- a firm proponent of turning the world's oceans into a zone of peace and stability -- will unswervingly operate in this direction along with other interested states. For only the complete removal of the threat of war -- from whatever quarter, including the world's oceans or space -- will make it possible to build a nuclear-free and nonviolent world, to create relations of mutual respect, friendship, and cooperation among the peoples, and to assert civilized norms, openness, and trust in international relations.

PYADYSHEV HOLDS BRIEFING AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

Discusses Von Weizsaecker Visit

LD092133 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] A routine briefing on current political issues has taken place at the press center of the USSR Foreign Ministry. Touching on the subject of the visit by FRG President Von Weizsaecker to the USSR, Boris Dmitriyevich Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of the Information Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said, among other things:

[Begin Pyadyshev recording] The past few days have been a time of active political dialogue between the Soviet leadership and the FRG president. The meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and President Von Weizsaecker, which took place 7 July, was of central importance. In the course of the conversation, Mikhail Sergeyevich stressed the possibilities for and the readiness of the Soviet Union to take relations with the FRG to a new level and to lend them a dynamic character. Comrade Gorbachev welcomed the statement of the FRG president on the Moscow Treaty and other treaties of the FRG with socialist countries as a basis of the FRG policy with regard to eastern Europe.

However, when one hears that the German question allegedly is open, that not all is clear as far as the eastern lands are concerned, and that Yalta and Potsdam are not lawful, one begins to doubt whether the FRG leadership intends to adhere consistently to the Moscow Treaty. The matter of the Bundeswehr Pershing-1A missles is a question to which the German side has not managed to reply. One gets the impression that the West German side wishes to establish a vicious-circle situation here. In the course of the conversations, a question was put as to who has the Pershing-1A carrier missiles. There followed the answer that they are under the command of the Bundeswehr Air Force. Another question was: In whose hands are the nuclear warheads on these carriers? The answer was: The keys to them are in the hands of the United States. What comes out of it, then? The U.S. nuclear warheads can be used only in combination with the Pershing-1A missiles, and these missiles are in the hands of the Bundeswehr. The result is that the FRG is a co-owner of nuclear weapons. If this is the case, then it is one of the crudest violations of the nonproliferation treaty. Another side of the matter is this: This Americans are talking constantly about the interests of their allies, but the Soviet Union also has allies.

Why is it that the United States may transfer nuclear weapons to the possession of its partners, whereas the Soviet Union may not? The presence of the Pershing-1A missiles in the FRG causes a great deal of concern in Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Poland, and in other socialist countries, as well. Overall, the FRG has shown that its position on this question leads it to an impasse.

The Soviet side has stated with all clarity that if the FRG Government wants to conclude as soon as possible an agreement on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, it must define its position. [end recording]

Decision on Rust 'Imminent'

LD091401 Hamburg DPA in German 1321 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- A decision in the case of the Hamburg amateur pilot, Mathias Rust, is apparently imminent. "The clarification is in the final phase", the spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Boris Pyadyshev, told journalists in Moscow today.

However, Pyadyshev declined to be drawn on an exact date for a resolution of the case. One must still remain patient a while regarding the fate of the young man, was all the Foreign Ministry spokesman would say.

The remarks made by the chairman of NOVOSTI, Valentin Falin, on Wednesday did not represent an official position. Falin recommended exercising "patience for a few hours or days yet." The investigations were delayed by surprising results. In any event, the period of custody is now nearing an end. Falin's words expressed a personal view, Pyadyshev said.

Details 'Clash' in Pakistan

LD091330 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS -- An armed clash between terrorists and Iranian nationals took place in Karachi on Wednesday near the blocks housing the staff of the USSR General Consulate, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshev said at today's briefing at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Centre.

During the clashes, he said, small arms, including grenade launchers, were used. Explosions damaged houses in which the Soviet personnel lived, endangering their lives. It was by sheer luck that no one had been hurt.

This incident is not the only one, the spokesman said. The attention of the Pakistani authorities was called before to other hostile action against Soviet personnel in Pakistan. No appropriate measures have been undertaken by authorities. In this connection, the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad handed to Pakistan's Foreign Ministry a note urging resolute steps to ensure the security of Soviet offices and personnel in Pakistan. A similar demand was expressed at the USSR Foreign Ministry today to a representative of Pakistan's Embassy in Mosow.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM070947 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

["International Review" column by Vitaliy Korionov]

[Text] Main Line of Development [subhead]

Political and diplomatic life in the world is intensive during these hot summer days.

The work of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the seventh USSR Supreme Soviet session has been followed with the closest attention all over the world. "The pace of restructuring in the Soviet Union," West Germany's GENERAL ANZEIGER acknowledges, "is breathtaking." It is echoed by Italy's IL MESSAGGERO: "The results of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum exceeded all expectations." LE MONDE from France adds: "The supreme organ of state power in the USSR has given the force of law to a number of documents outlining the basic directions of a radical reform of economic management."

Many Western press organs note that the present restructuring is one of the most major transformations in the USSR for many decades. But they lack the courage to acknowledge that only a country counting on a long and durable peace can embark upon such profound reforms and such a radical reorganization of its management apparatus and economic mechanism. By its very essence our restructuring demostrates that the desire for peace and international cooperation is the Soviet land's sincere and constant desire.

The desire to turn our foreign policy acts into a means of "scoring" propaganda points has always been alien to us. Moscow is fully aware of the potentially lethal result of merely playing at politics in the nuclear missile age. Mankind has no time to lose. The solution of the most vital problem, that of disarmament, can be delayed no longer.

By its actions the Soviet Union is trying to set an example to others. The USSR's persistent course of breaking the deadlock in the cause of nuclear disarmament can be clearly traced from the Soviet program for a nuclear-free world proclaimed on 15 January 1986 to the constructive stance taken by the Soviet delegation at the present Geneva talks.

The outstanding international event of the past week was the official, friendly visit to the Soviet Union by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India. The Festival of India in the USSR, ceremonially opened by the prime minister and by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was an event without parallel in the history of mankind's cultural and indeed political life. It shows that the purposeful search for new forms of contact can lead to actions and events which until recently could not even have been imagined.

The great socialist power and great nonaligned power which organized the festival represent a major factor in world politics which plays an outstanding creative role in the system of international relations. Mankind is indebted to our countries for enriching the practice of interstate relations with such an important document as the Delhi declaration on the principles of a world free from nuclear weapons and violence, which on behalf of more than one-fifth of mankind urged the leaders of all countries to take urgent actions capable of leading to a world free from weapons of mass destruction and wars. The present festival also shows most strikingly how our countries are actually putting those principles into practice by the most varied forms and means.

The significance of the joint peace-loving efforts of the USSR and India increases all the more in a situation where forces hostile to the cause of international security are fueling tension, including in the Indian Ocean and the Asian subcontinent. Specifically, Washington is mounting a risky venture in the Persian Gulf by building up its naval forces in the Indian Ocean and bringing new warships, with battleships and aircraft carriers among them, closer to the approaches to the Persian Gulf.

India's concern at such a development of events is understandable. The socialist countries' concern is equally understandable. The socialist states' delegations to the UN Special Committee on the Indian Ocean recently put forward a new peace initiative. In the working document that they submitted entitled "Confidence-building Measures in the Indian Ocean," those countries propose, among other things, the limitation of the number of warships in the region belonging to nonlittoral states, the withdrawal by them from the Indian Ocean zone of ships carrying nuclear weapons, and other measures designed to strengthen peace and security in the region.

R. Gandhi's meetings and talks with the Soviet leaders reaffirmed that Soviet-Indian friendship is firm and indestructible. A comprehensive long-term program for scientific and technical cooperation was signed in Moscow. Cooperation between our countries is attaining qualitatively new heights.

The world community now has a large arsenal of ways and means capable of playing an effective role in normalizing the situation in the world. Our country attaches great significance to such world forums as the United Nations. The more complex the international situation becomes, the clearer it is that the United Nations is the most appropriate place for achieving mutual understanding between states (there are 159 states in that organization now) and for balancing their differing and multifarious interests.

J. Terez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, visited the Soviet Union las week. At a meeting with M. S. Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders there was a detailed exchange of opinions on vital questions of the present situation in the world, above all problems such as nuclear disarmament and the solution of crises and conflict situations in he world, as well as questions of increasing the United Nations' effectiveness as an instrument of international security. There is no doubting the conclusion: The visit was fruitful and beneficial to the cause of world peace.

Building a Bridge of Peace [subhead]

Our time gives rise to new forms of expression for the peoples' peace-loving aspirations.

A Soviet-U.S. "march for peace and nuclear disarmament" has ended. As is well known, around 500 enthusiasts participated directly in the march from Leningrad to Moscow, but it is surely impossible to calculate how many hundreds of thousands of people took part in events connected with the march. It is not a question of figures alone. Like the peace cruise along the Mississippi last year involving a group of Soviet peace campaigners, this march confirmed most strikingly that when ordinary people from the United States and the Soviet Union meet they find a common language without difficulty. The language barrier rapidly disappears, giving way to mutual understanding and the desire to link hands to achieve the common human goal of curbing the nuclear monster.

Of course, the events taking place in the international arena are complex and often highly contradictory. Nevertheless, the main point is becoming increasingly clear: The trend toward disarmament is growing in the world and the forces capable of turning the course of events in the direction of disarmament and the relaxation of tension are increasing.

However, it is necessary to see clearly that every step forward will have to be fought for. The new political thinking and understanding of the realities of the modern world are gaining ground, but with great difficulty. It is the shortage of new thinking which is preventing urgent problems from being resolved. It is a fact, after all, that relics of imperial policy constantly influence the policy of the U.S. ruling circles. I shall cite just a single example.

The other day the U.S. President addressed a briefing for Republican Party activists. Speaking about the prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations, R. Reagan stated: "We could perhaps conclude an agreement on the reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe before the end of this year."

Such an approach could be called realistic and one which corresponds not only to the vital interests of the United States and the USSR but also the needs of international life. I would not even want to draw special attention to the President's highly significant "perhaps" if this speech did not stubbornly repeat a hackneyed old thesis. "The prospect of reaching an agreement," the president asserted, "is due to the fact that we are strong." Once again we have a panegyric for the notorious position-of-strength policy, which has already poisoned relations between our countries so many times before.

This time, too, the head of the White House categorically demanded from Congress the full and unconditional allocation of vast appropriations for military purposes. The President again declared that the United States is engaged on a "crusade" against Nicaragua and again insisted on comprehensive support for the "contras," who are being used by Washington to try to overthrow by force the legitimate government of sovereign Nicaragua. It is because of that course that the development of the Contadora peace process is being blocked and women and children are continuing to die in Nicaraguan villages at the hands of hired killers.

Attempts are also being made to prevent the improvement of the situation in Europe. Certain circles in Washington are assiduously seeking new ways to dispel the peoples' hopes of the implementation of the Soviet Union's plan for the elimination of a whole class of missiles -- medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- in Europe. One option is to retain in one form or another the U.S. Pershings sited in the FRG. Now Washington has made a surprise "discovery": Official circles have asserted that the Pershing-1A missiles and the U.S. nuclear warheads for them turn out to be "a special class of weapon" belonging neither to the great powers nor to third countries. It is interesting to ask whether the MX missiles are "nobody's weapon" too.

There is another point here. From deep within the Pentagon there recently appeared a new document providing evidence that the administration is preparing to take implementation of the "Star Wars" program a stage further. The Pentagon memorandum talks about determining weapon systems which can be used to carry out the so-called "early deployment of a wide-scale defense system with space-based elements." In light of this, it becomes increasingly obvious just how vitally important the Soviet Union's insistent emphasis on the special danger of SDI is for the fate of world peace. Weapons in space must not be allowed!

A Settlement and Those Who Oppose It [subhead]

Six months have passed since the Afghan leadership proclaimed the course of national reconciliation. The initial results of its implementation are already to hand. They are not entirely positive but improvements are nevertheless clear. Despite the obstacles created by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities, more than 62,000 refugees have returned home. Divisions continue within the armed counterrevolution: 25,000 members of armed formations have voluntarily laid down their arms. The organs of people's power have released more than 6,000 prisoners from jail.

New strata are joining in the process of national reconciliation. Over 30 provincial national reconciliation commissions have been set up in the country uniting around 90,000 patriots in their ranks. A division is also occurring in the opposition's ranks. The commission for national reconciliation at local level includes around 5,000 representative of the opposition. The government includes five ministers who worked under former regimes.

This means that the objective preconditions are appearing in Afghanistan for creating an effective coalition of democratic and patriotic forces. Such a coalition would be most capable of ending the fratricidal war and directing the country toward the path of resolving questions of vital importance for the nation.

Kabul has just recently adopted a decree and law on the legalization of underground parties. National entrepreneurs, the peasantry, and the clergy have been given the right to create their own parties, which may hold their own views different from the PDPA's position on questions of theory, strategy, and tactics but which are committed to the common goal -- the earliest establishment of peace in the country. At the same time, steps are being taken to settle the situation around Afghanistan, including in the United Nations.

Everyone to whom the cause of peace in Asia is dear would like to strengthen the process of normalizing the situation within and around Afghanistan. But this, however, does not suit those who would like Afghans to go on murdering each other and would like Afghanistan to remain a bloody "regional problem" for as long as possible. A considerable increase in supplies of weapons and money to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries from the United States and from Britain and some other countries is now being seen. At the same time, the transformation of Pakistan into a base for expanding the undeclared war against the Afghan people is being stepped up.

A U.S. senator recently called Pakistan a "Funnel leading from Central Asia into the Persian Gulf" Year by year the flow of U.S. dollars and new types of weapons poured into that "funnel" increases. Whereas between 1981 and 1986 $3.2 billion of U.S. military-economic assistance passed through it, Washington intends to pour another $4.02 billion into it between 1987 and 1993. Recently the press published reports on the Washington administration's decision to supply the Islamabad regime with a large consignment of heavy long-range artillery pieces and electronic countermeasures systems. The Pentagon has officially informed Congress about the decision to sell Pakistan a large consignment of antitank weapons and more than 2,000 TOW missiles in the near future. A considerable proportion of these weapons is being transferred to the dushman bandit formations.

The conclusion is obvious: Pakistan is being transformed into a Pentagon outpost in South Asia threatening the security of neighboring states and serving as a rear supprt base for the Afghan counterrevolutionaries' military operations. But is this what Pakistan itself and its people need? Will this ease its development problems or improve its relations with its neighbors? I believe the answer is no on all counts.

As for the Soviet Union, its only desire is to see in Afghanistan a friend of the USSR and a state that is neutral, developing autonomously, and independent rather than a bridgehead for hostile activity which threatens its neighbors' security. That is the course which meets the interests of the peoples of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other countries and the interests of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

U.S. 'BUGGING' OF SOVIET MISSIONS DISCUSSED

LD100053 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1855 GMT 9 Jul 87

["Documentary film": "Invisible Witnesses"]

[Text] Even in inexperienced observer would detect a definite pattern in the recent development of relations between the USSR and United States. Each time the needle on the political barometer begins to move toward any positive changes, whenever favorable conditions arise for holding serious and constructive talks -- primarily on questions of disarmament -- certain circles in the United States have recourse to any means to hinder the normalization of relations between the two countries and the world situation as a whole.

On the eve of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva in 1985, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger urgently warned President Reagan against concluding an agreement with the USSR. Before USSR Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's talks with Reagan in 1986, provocation directed against a Soviet UN representaive, Zakharov, was organized. A little later, the Reagan administration carried out yet another action inimical to the USSR and unprecedented in the history of relations between the two countries when it reduced the number of diplomatic personnel at the Soviet mission to the United Nations in New York, at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, and the consulate general in San Francisco by 75 people.

Having used up the whole arsenal of normal methods and feeling the need for something new, Washington decided to add to its methods a rather piquant lyric. Literally a few days before the start of Secretary of State Shultz' visit to Moscow, in April 1987, the United States created a fuss about the Marines guarding the U.S. representations in Moscow and Leningrad and so-called female Soviet spies. But even this did not seem enough. Representatives of the top echelon of the U.S. Administration made statements alleging that the new U.S. Embassy building in Moscow was enmeshed with electronic bugging equipment. In a clear attempt to change the accent of Shultz' forthcoming talks with Soviet leaders and to move into the background the most important question on the agenda -- the problem of disarmament -- President Reagan considered it necessary to state publicly and on more than one occasion that he had given the secretary of state instructions on precisely what he had to discuss in Moscow.

[Begin Reagan recording in English with superimposed Russian translation] I have instructed Mr Shultz that during his visit he is to direct his attention mainly at the question of the security of our embassy. [end recording]

Pay attention to that, not to the problem that alarms mankind, that of averting a nuclear catastrophe, but to some sort of mythical danger which allegedly exists for U.S. representation in the USSR. The State Department, too, which at that very moment was occupied with preparations for its head's visit to Moscow was not slow to announce -- again in public -- that it was prepared to follow Reagan's directive.

At a news conference on the eve of his visit to the USSR, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz made the following provocative statement:

[Begin Shultz recording in English with superimposed Russian translation] We did not break into their embassy; it was they who broke into our embassy, our sovereign territory. [end recording]

Such sensational statements on espionage horrors coming from the mouths of such high-ranking officials have always aroused a particular hullabaloo, particularly among journalists. This was no exception. Snatching up all their photographic equipment, the correspondents raced each other as they crowded to the embassy building that was packed with espionage equipment. But which embassy was it? No, not the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, but the Soviet Embassy in Washington. It was precisely here, in the United States, and not in Moscow, that they could see with their own eyes and even touch equipment produced by the experts of the U.S. special services which had been found in the working and living quarters of the new complex of buildings of the Soviet Embassy.

At a news conference here [not further specified] on 10 April 1987, the many Soviet and foreign journalists in attendance were presented with more than convincing proof of the violation -- by precisely the U.S. side -- of the elementary norms of international law and common human morality. Various models of eavesdropping equipment and means of camouflaging it and also the places in which they were found were demonstrated.

It seems that both the President and the U.S. secretary of state had forgotten that such generously financed U.S. departments as the CIA, the NSC and FBI and others which carry out special tasks for the U.S. Government had, for a long time, been carrying out constant subversive work against Soviet representatives in this country, implementing total shadowing and electronic espionage not only of operational and administrative buildings but also of living quarters.

The Soviet side has on more than one occasion protested upon finding, in the living quarters of Soviet citizens in the United States, bugging devices secretly installed by U.S. special services and has pointed out that this is in no way compatible with the norms of state relations and is contrary to the relevant articles of the Helsinki final Act about the Soviet observation of which there is so much concern across the ocean. As was stressed at a news conference in Moscow on 9 April 1987 by a representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry, such actions by the U.S. special services directed against the Soviet State, against Soviet institutions in the United States arouse justified indignation and protests from Soviet people. These unending provocations have as their aim to create for workers in Soviet representations in New York, Washington, and San Francisco intolerable conditions for their life and work.

In a clear attempt to distract the attention of the U.S. and international public from their own lawlessness and trampling of the norms of interstate relations the U.S. leaders make use of false accusations against the Soviet side. At a news conference in Moscow it was also particularly emphasized that the practice of electronic incursion into the offices and living quarters of Soviet representatives was deep rooted and on a vast scale. This type of spying was most clealy manifested with regard to the construction of the new complex of USSR Embassy buildings in Washington. In accordance with an intergovernmental agreement, the construction work was carried out by U.S. firms.

As it turned out, along with the principal construction firm a subcontractor was brought in. It represented the U.S. special services and its job was to fit the complex with its own additional specific equipment deriving from its own specific interests. It must be said that this contractor did his best.

As the buildings were constructed, the amount of diverse special equipment installed in them grew -- equipment manufactured to special order and installed both during the construction work and beforehand, at the construction materials' plants. Thus, eavesdropping equipment was concealed in construction components -- innocent at first sight -- such as facing bricks and building bricks.

The residents of the new house could have had no idea that under the very ceiling and in the walls of their flats microphones linked to special eavesdropping devices were concealed. Naturally no suspicions could have been aroused by such indispensabe features in every room as ordinary electric wall sockets. But could anyone really have thought that under the fittings, orifices specially bored in the brickwork containing eavesdropping microphones in the form of rods about the thickness of an ordinary pencil had been concealed?

Such pencils were activated by a signal from the appropriate control point. Evidently, however, certain people wanted to be more than just invisible witnesses of the conversations taking place in the flats. It was no less interesting to find out what was being printed on the electric typewriters and teleprinters being used in the offices and what information was going out in the computers and other electronic devices. Special sensors enabled this sort of data to be obtained and transmitted via the appropriate devices, also hidden in the bricks of the building walls. A large number of such systems, supplying information of interest to the U.S. special services using radio and light beams, were removed.

The U.S. special organizations worked no less carefully on the construction of the Soviet Embassy's new administrative buildings. Here are just a few examples: the vast windows of these premises were carefully lagged with special insulating material. But the scientific experts from the appropriate departments also took care to ensure that the lagging contained all the equipment needed for eavesdropping -- a transmitter, receiver, aerial, and power unit -- and cables led to microphones adjacent to the metal window frames. But even that was not enough. Electronic bugs were also installed in the very frames, and they were linked to devices inside the marble facing panels of the building. In front of correspondents who were present, a Soviet Embassy employee removed one such appliance. Installation of this equipment was carried out well in advance -- even before the construction materials were brought to the embassy compound.

What are things like in New York, where a substantial number of Soviet citizens -- employees of the Soviet mission to the United Nations and a number of other organizations -- also live and work? The freedom whose praises the U.S. authorities and propaganda bodies sing out at full volume fails to apply, not just to the Americans themselves, but also to representatives of other countries. Contravening all the laws of both interstate and general human relations, the U.S. special services here, too, employ every means to encroach upon both the working and private life of Soviet people.

A vivid example of such excessive but far from hospitable attention is provided by the residential premises of the Soviet mission, which was literally stuffed with every possible kind of espionage equipment. This time the special services picked the suspended ceilings. Their metal fixing rods were replaced with hollow tubes, the tips of which were electronic circuits with microphones. Using just one such device, it was possible without any trouble to eavesdrop on conversations throughout the flat -- the living room, bedroom, hall and even the bathroom and kitchen. Responding to a request from Soviet representatives to adjust the collective television aerial, the Americans sent to the residential premises specialists who not only ensured excellent reception quality, but also made it possible for the special services to receive, without interruption, information on all the conversations being held in the flats via this aerial. The power sources of all this special equipment were designed for a lengthy period of service. Some of them can even be recharged by means of beam pulses directed at the relevant building. The U.S. special services spare neither effort nor time, nor funds to manufacture and install this quite complex technical equipment. At news conferences in Moscow and Washington individual examples from the whole collection put together by Soviet specialists were shown.

The trouble is that facts are a stubborn thing, and what they show is that the U.S. special organizations are contravening the written and unwritten rules governing relations between countries, and it must be assumed that the White House is not unaware of what is going on. Such large-scale activity aimed at penetrating Soviet missions constantly creates vast additional financial costs for the Soviet side. What costs are involved in just clearing buildings of all this sophisticated eavesdropping equipment, removing it from external and internal walls, ferro-concrete structures, suspended ceilings, and expensive marble facing panels! All these smashed and twisted walls, ceilings, and structures have to be restored to their normal appearance.

Soviet Embassy buildings in a vacation area near Washington did not lack the attention of the U.S. special departments, either. The employees of Soviet establishments going here with their families, going here on their off days, if they are given any, can hardly count on complete solitude, because even in the buildings allocated for children's school vacation camps bugging equipment was found.

In another building, recently handed over to the Soviet Embassy and situated in the same area, it was found during redecorating work that its rooms had been finished in particularly valuable materials. Thus, even in the attic some extremely expensive blocks of wood were discovered -- expensive not because of the species of wood, but because of the radio transmitting devices concealed in them which were connected to microphones in the rooms of the house.

The use of espionage equipment to penetrate the rooms of Soviet diplomatic and other establishments in the United States is becoming larger and larger in scale, and the forms in which it is installed more sophisticated. The point is not only that the norms of relations between countries and human rights are being violated, but there is another, even more significant, side to that activity which concerns problems of all mankind, humanitarian problems.

The thing is that the use of the special equipment, like the use of powerful radiation sources, among other things -- as was noted at the Washington news conference -- for boost-charging various devices, does perceptible damage to people's health. There have been cases where exposure to radiation has resulted in a sharp loss of vision. Soviet representatives returning from the United States were found to have a high predisposition to cancer.

The massive electronic espionage and total surveillance of Soviet citizens is carried out not only around-the-clock in both offices and homes, but also virtually everywhere. Wherever representatives of the Soviet Union are -- at work, on business trips around the country or on vacation, including on land belonging to Soviet establishments where the holiday area is sited...everywhere they are constantly shadowed and under constant observation. Evidence of the total nature of this activity by the U.S. special services is also given by instances of special equipment being found in the cars of diplomats, journalists, and other Soviet citizens in the United States.

At a news conference in Washington the TASS correspondent's car was put on show. In the presence of journalists, a special device was removed from it that enabled its movement to be monitored over a considerable distance. During the Moscow news conference it was said in particular that the U.S. special services are trampling on all the norms of relations between states and are carrying out massive espionage against Soviet establishments abroad.

At the same time, it throws light on the U.S. Administration's approach to international problems. The hostile statements and actions against the Soviet Union cannot but arouse a feeling of indignation and regret, particularly at the present time when the Soviet side is doing everything it can to acieve progress in solving the questions that determine the relations between our countries.

PRAVDA CARRIES U.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY CONGRATULATIONS

PM091107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jul 87 Second Edition p 3

[USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium undated Independence Day message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan]

[Text] To His Excellency Ronald W. Reagan, President of the United States:

On the occasion of the U.S. Independence Day national holiday, please accept Mr President, congratulations and wishes to the U.S. people for a peaceful future and prosperity.

On this portentous day for U.S. citizens we express hope for the development of mutual understanding and collaboration between our two countries, above all in the matter of reducing international tension and eliminating the nuclear danger. A major step in this direction would be the achievement of practical accords on specific measures to reduce nuclear arms on earth and prevent an arms race in space. The Soviet Union is ready to establish stable and constructive relations with the United States on the basis of reciprocity.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

FORMER U.S. ENVOY MAKES COMMEMORATIVE FLIGHT

PM091121 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Flight Through Memory"]

[Text] At 1755 on 7 July a six-seat Learjet-55 jet aircraft piloted by 73-year-old American Thomas Watson landed at Moscow's Sheremetyevo International Airport after covering approximately 11,000 km. The former U.S. ambassador to the USSR dedicated his flight to the 45th anniversary of the opening of the air bridge between our countries during World War II, over which military and civilian freight was transferred to the Soviet Union. The crew members were T. Watson's grandson -- Thomas william -- and Robert Philpott, second pilot.

NIKOLAYEV DESCRIBES ZHAO'S E. EUROPE TOUR

PM301525 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 26, 28 Jun 87 p 5

[Georgiy Nikolayev article: "20 Years Later. Zhao Ziyang's Visit to East Europe"]

[Text] Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, premier of the PRC State Council, has made official visits to Poland, the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Bulgaria. This was the first visit to the socialist countries of Europe by a Chinese leader of such high rank in the last 20-odd years. During the summit meetings and talks Zhao Ziyang had with party and state leaders, the sides exchanged information on the achievements in socialist construction in their countries, discussed topical foreign policy problems and signed bilateral documents.

Zhao Ziyang's tour, which attracted the attention of the world public, was preceded by the visits made to Beijing by top party and state leaders of a number of East European socialist countries.

Before flying to Europe, Zhao Ziyang, at the Beijing airport, said that major progress has been made in China's relations with these countries in the recent past. He noted that the People's Republic of China had much in common with them and expressed assurance in that his visits would promote the strengthening of understanding, confidence and cooperation between these countries and the PRC. He said that Eastern Europe was an important factor in the preservation of peace and that the socialist countries' efforts aimed at the relaxation of international tensions, at disarament and at maintaining a dialogue, were quite impressive.

Qian Qichen, deputy PRC foreign minister, said, in an interview to the SHIZE ZHISHI magazine on the eve of Zhao Ziyang's tour: "The East European socialist countries were the first group of countries which established diplomatic relations with the PRC after it was proclaimed. They rendered assistance to China during its first five-year plan (1953-1957). After that, our relations were cool for a comparatively long period. This period, however, is over."

Zhao Ziyang's tour and the talks he had in the five capitals were considerable events in the relations between the PRC and the socialist states. The sides confirmed that the level achieved in these relations was a good foundation for their further dynamic development, above all, in trade-economic and cultural fields and for the consistent expansion and development of all-round relations between them. The visit demonstrated the factual coincidence of the positions occupied by the PRC and the socialist community countries on a number of international questions, especially on major problems of war, peace and disarmament, with differences remaining in some questions. The PRC expressed, together with the other socialist states, confidence that war can and must be averted and that the road to this leads through disarmament and international detente.

Erich Honecker, general secretary to the SUPG [SED] Central Committee, Chairman of the GDR State Council, informed Zhao Ziyang on the results of the Berlin meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. The sides pointed out the need for conducting a political dialogue with all the forces interested in the preservation of peace and understanding. Speaking to the mass media people of the GDR, Zhao Ziyang declared that China was concentrating its efforts on socialist construction and needed stable peace in order to do that. "The securing of world peace is China's proclaimed state policy and the main goal of our entire foreign policy," he said.

In another interview, which Zhao Ziyang gave in Prague, he expounded Beijing's foreign policy as follows: "We are against the arms race and its transfer to outer space. We are for the banning and complete liquidation of chemical weapons, and for the supplementing of nuclear disarmament with a reduction of the arsenals of conventional weapons. We support the proposals of the countries that have no nuclear weapons to set up non-nuclear zones, or peace zones."

At their meetings with Zhao Ziyang, the journalists displayed interest in the PRC internal policy. "Preparing for the 13th CPC Congress and launching economic and political reforms, the Chinese leadership, said Zhao Ziyang, "strives to develop productive forces, so that the superiority of the socialist system would be even more apparent and that socialism would be secured an even greater magnetic force."

"Zhao Ziyang's visit," writes the PRC press, "testifies to China's intention to develop friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries of Europe, in accord with five peaceful coexistence principles, to expand the exchange of know-how in socialist construction, to expand and develop bilateral cooperation and contacts in economics, trade, science, technology, culture and art."

NPC STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING CONCLUDES

PM061155 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jun 87 Morning Edition p5

[TASS report: "PRC National People's Congress Standing Committee Session Concluded"]

[Text] Beijing, 24 Jun -- A scheduled session of the Standing Committee of the PRC National People's Congress came to a close yesterday. The leading organ of the country's parliament approved a financial statement and a report on fulfillment of the state budget in 1986, and also a joint statement by the Chinese and Portuguese governments on the question of Aomen (Macao) and the "PRC Law on Technical Contracts."

The session participants approved a special resolution in connection with the recent forest fires in the Greater Khingan region, which were the largest in the PRC's history. They called for lessons to be learned from the instances of mismanagement that were allowed to occur and for resolute struggle to be waged against bureaucracy and breaches of discipline.

The National People's Congress Standing Committee appointed Yao Yilin, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and vice premier of the PRC State Council, as chairman of the State Planning Committee.

CHON TU-HWAN STEPS DOWN AS PARTY CHIEF

LD100629 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo July 7 TASS - The South Korean dictator Chon Tu-Hwan today announced that he steps down from the post of the ruling Democratic Justice Party chairman. He said he intended to remain in the office of the president of South Korea until his term expires in February 1988.

U.S. ATTEMPTING TO SPLIT OPPOSITION IN S. KOREA

LD092143 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] According to reports by AFP from Seoul, the South Korean authorities have stated that tomorrow they will begin releasing from prison 2,335 participants of antigovernment actions and leaders of opposing organizations, and their civil rights will be restored. The rulers of the Seoul regime have been forced to declare amnesty to these political prisoners because of the demands of the mass movement against the dictatorship of Chon Tu-hwan. Here is commentary on the latest news. Boris Andrianov is at the microphone:

[Andrianov] The gates of South Korean prisons will not open for absolutely all political prisoners. Those who the Seoul authorities have presently named as convicted supporters of pro-communist organizations will not be set free. How many people in this category will remain behind prison bars is thoroughly concealed by the rulers of the regime. But their numbers are probably counted in many thousands, since over the past years the clique of Chon Tu-hwan has invariably been putting labels of pro-communist elements and communist agents to all steadfast and resolute fighters against dictatorship. They have been trying thereby to pretend in Seoul that the wide antigovernment movement in South Korea is being inspired from outside.

Having refused to release a proportion of political prisoners, Chon Tu-hwan, to all appearances, was prompted in his actions by the emissaries of Washington. They are in fact directing literally every step of the Seoul ruler, and he was instructed not to release from imprisonment those representatives of the opposition whose leanings are more radical, under the pretext that they are communists. However, it was not for this entirely invented reason that it has been decided to leave these South Koreans in isolation.

The fact is, they personify the vanguard of the opposing forces which combine the struggle against the military dictatorship with the demand for the removal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the striving for the unification of the country. These types of appeals have found, incidentally, a wide response among participants in recent anti-government actions and have caused serious commotion in circles of official Washington. They have started to sense there that a question mark might be put over the U.S. military presence in the Korean peninsula, to which an important role is allocated by the United States in their strategic plans in the Far East.

In order to avoid an undesirable development in events, the Washington administration has conceived the idea of splitting the South Korean opposition, and, by leaving in isolation the representatives of patriotic and progressive forces, of winning over moderate bourgeois leaders after brainwashing. The effect of this brainwashing has already begun to show in the utterances of individual leaders of the opposition.

Thus, for example, the Kim Yong-sam, leader of the Reunification Democratic Party, stated the other day that U.S. troops should remain in South Korea in order to preclude aggression from the north. At the same time he bowed to Seoul military circles which, as is known, have been serving as a pillar of that very dictatorial regime of Chon Tu-hwan, which has become the main target of the nationwide anti-government movement. This sort of transformation confirms in whose interests Washington now advocates the democratization of South Korea.

MONGOLIAN PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

PM080945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "MPRP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 1 Jul -- An MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee plenum held here has discussed ways of enhancing social production efficiency and improving output quality in all national economic sectors and services for the population. The plenum was addressed by J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium. He emphasized that in tackling key economic tasks Mongolia relies on cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries.

Mongolia's communists and all the working people warmly support the results of the recent CPSU Central Committee plenum, which are of great theoretical and practical significance for the solution of urgent tasks in socialist building, J. Batmonh said. The revolutionary renewal which extends to all spheres of Soviet society's life is a direct continuation of the Great October cause and provides extensive opportunities for making better use of the vast potential of socialism with a view to further building up its might. The constant study of the rich experience of restructuring in the USSR and its creative application in the socialist building in Mongolia is a key task of our party, state, economic, and social organizations.

A report "On the tasks of enhancing production efficiency and quality" was delivered at the plenum by D. Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

The plenum discussed organizational questions.

T. Ragchaa was relieved of his duties as member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo on his retirement. The plenum promoted B. Lamjab from candidate member to member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and elected MPRP Central Committee Secretary P. Damdin a candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo.

BIRYUKOV VIEWS U.S.-JAPANESE MILITARY COOPERATION

LD302029 Moscow TASS in English 2007 GMT 30 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 30 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov:

During his visit to Japan Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, reached agreement with the Japanese Government on new dangerous guidelines of cooperation between the two countries in the military field.

Speaking at a news conference in Tokyo, the Pentagon chief said that the two countries had agreed to bolster and modernize their anti-submarine warfare capability which, in his words, was "vitally important" for security of Japan and that of the United States and the entire "free world."

The U.S. secretary of defense proposed that the United States and Japan establish a system for bilateral cooperation to enhance the efficiency of operations against Soviet submarines.

Oddly enough, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan not only supported that proposal, but also said that the sides had maintained such cooperation before within the framework of the Japan-U.S. "security treaty."

The Pentagon chief was obviously pleased with the decision of Tokyo on Japan's participation in the U.S. "Star Wars" program. He emphasized that Japan's cooperation in the implementation of that program would be useful not only in countering "the Soviet military threat," but also in the deployment of SDI systems.

Both the agreement on scaling up anti-submarine operations and Tokyo's consent to participate in carrying out the SDI program touch on the most sensitive points, I would even say nerve centers, of strategic stability that has taken shape in the world.

Both are in principle undermining such stability in a direct way and even experts are unable to predict the consequences. It is plain that Tokyo ignored the Soviet Union's warnings on that score.

Last summer the Soviet Union came out in Vladivostok in favor of enhancing stability by limiting competition in anti-submarine weapons and reaching agreement on refraining from anti-submarine operations in certain zones of the Pacific Ocean.

This could become a substantive confidence-building measure in the region. On the contrary, a buildup of the anti-submarine capability in combination with SDI is bound to destabilize the strategic situation. This should be obvious tc everyone, it would seem.

Nonetheless, Tokyo ignored the Soviet proposal, just like it ignored the Soviet warning that Japan's participation in SDI, the purpose of which is to develop and deploy space strike arms in near-earth orbits, was tantamount to complicity in the transfer of the arms race to outer space and that consequences of that move for mutual trust, peace and the very existence of humankind on earth would be most destructive.

In the light of the agreement reached by the U.S. defense secretary and his Japanese partners one is coming to understand the secret motives which guided Washington and Tokyo when they were playing up an anti-Soviet campaign around the delivery of machine-tools to the Soviet Union by Toshiba Kikai Engineering Company.

In their view, a dramatically increased "Soviet military threat" as a result seemed to justify automatically Tokyo's involvement in the new U.S. "naval strategy" and in the "Star Wars" plans directed primarily against the Soviet Union.

It is plain that both will only heighten the aggressiveness of the United States which is working toward a decisive and unconditional superiority in all spheres and, hence, will lower the threshold of probability of conflicts.

Speculating on a "Soviet military threat" the Pentagon chief also tried to win Japan's support for U.S. armed interference in the Persian Gulf. Demanding Japan's participation in the effort to ensure "safety of navigation" there he dropped a hint that its refusal could lead to far greater complications in the trade and economic field than the case with Toshiba Kikai.

Washington, displeased with the balance of trade with Japan, clearly wants Tokyo to pay more of the Pentagon's bills regardless of the fact whether they are linked with the militarization of outer space or with aggressive military preparations in the Far East and other regions of the world.

Tied hand and foot by the bonds of the "security treaty" Japan is compelled to pay those bills and, in doing so, is not only damaging its reputation of the country of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but also diminishing its own security.

PHAM HUNG NOTES NEED TO IMPROVE USE OF SOVIET AID

PM080911 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting With Journalists"]

[Text] Hanoi, 27 Jun -- The Vietnamese people are ready to do everything in their power to strengthen the socialist community's cohesion and might. They totally support the Soviet Union's peace initiatives aimed at consolidating peace and international security, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, ending the arms race, and preventing it from spreading into space. This was said by Pham Hung, member of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, at a meeting with journalists from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

An important condition of Vietnam's successful progress along the path of profound and comprehensive renewal, the Vietnamese leader stressed, is an improvement in the efficiency with which the enormous assistance given to our republic by the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries is used. The recent talks in Moscow between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, raised the relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples to a qualitatively new level and opened up good prospects for their deepening and development. The Vietnamese leadership has sharply criticized cases where Soviet assistance is not used satisfactorily and has adopted a course of switching as speedily as possible to efficient new forms of cooperation, primarily in the production sphere.

The routine session of the SRV National Assembly which has now ended in Hanoi, he stressed, was an important landmark on the road of defining and practically implementing the decisions of the Sixth CPV Congress. Deputies in the republic's supreme organ of state power gave a truthful, frank analysis of the current acute socioeconomic situation in the country. Unfortunately, Pham Hung noted, it must be said that the process of fulfilling the tasks outlined by the party congress is dragging on. Under the present conditions it is impermissible to waste time. The situation demands the speediest elaboration and implementation of effective measures aimed at improving the economic management mechanism, stabilizing the situation in the sphere of distribution and commodity-money exchange, and gradually improving the working people's life.

The extent of the people's trust in the party depends on how successfully these tasks are resolved, the SRV leader pointed out. The republic's leading organs must show dynamism, energy, initiative, and a creative approach, resolutely overcome shortcomings, and struggle against negative phenomena in social and economic life.

SHABAYEV ADDRESSES U.S. STAND ON PERSIAN GULF

LD071406 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 7 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev:

If our stand lacks logic so much the worse for the logic. This is evidently the principle to which Washington adheres in fighting off criticisms over its moves in the Persian Gulf.

This was especially so in the past few days when administration officials had to respond to queries of the media people who kept asking them what the White House's reaction was to the Soviet Union's proposal for the withdrawal from the Gulf of the naval ships of all states not related to that region.

One after another those officials responded with the same refrain: The United States will not withdraw from the Gulf because it does not want to yield "control over" the region to the Soviet Union.

It is appropriate to ask at this point: What are they talking about? If the case in point is "free navigation" as Washington announced vocally, another question prompts itself: Is the "tanker war", born out of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, something masterminded by Moscow?

There is no logic of any kind here. Hence, it is the words about the "control" over the Gulf which are more up to the point. And the point is the substance of the U.S. policy in that region. But even in this case the White House's arguments do not add up.

If the United States goes, the President's assistant for press relations Marlin Fitzwater said, the Russians would come, for they are much closer to the scene than the U.S.

But here one can take the liberty of advising Washington "experts" to have a better look at the map. It is the United States, not the Soviet Union, which has set up a wide network of military bases on the Persian Gulf coast and in adjacent regions of the Middle East, Africa and the Indian Ocean. There are more than 30 such bases now.

It is the United States, not the Soviet Union, which maintains large naval formations, including three aircraft carrier groups, about thirty escort ships and about 270 aircraft carrier-based planes in the Persian Gulf and regions near it on a permanent basis. Centcom, is an American, not Soviet, command and it exists and operates not only on paper.

No, there is definitely no logic in the arguments of architects and preachers of the doctrine of "neoglobalism" which determines military and political objectives of the United States and methods for attaining them.

As to the hasty and clearly ill-considered reaction of Washington to the Soviet proposal for improving the situation in the Persian Gulf, doesn't it testify to the U.S. desire to use the existing situation, no matter what risks may be involved, for gaining foothold in the Persian Gulf for good, as PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER suggested.

Isn't it the reason why Washington is in such a hurry, fearing that efforts of the United Nations Security Council to terminate the Iranian-Iraqi war may change the situation?

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GANDHI'S OFFICIAL VISIT

Gandhi Opens India Festival

LD032107 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1720 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Speech by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Lenin Stadium in Luzhniki Areas of Moscow at the open of Indian Festival; Gandhi speaks in English with simultaneous Russian translation -- live]

[Text] Mr General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev; Mrs Raisa Gorbacheva; Your excellencies; friends: I warmly and cordially welcome all our numerous friends, and we thank them for gathering with us here today. For a whole year, festive, dancing India will be staying with you. Its songs and dances, and its art and beauty, will come into your homes. You will be able to get to know our musicians, dancers, artists, and folk craftsmen; you will hear the songs of our people; you will experience the poetry of the languages which our people speak; you will see the splendour of our sculpture and delight of our painting. We will help you to sample a civilization which dates back 5,000 years.

Indian civilization is unique. It combines the ancient and classical with a vivid variety of contemporary forms developing on their basis. The strength of our civilization resides in its greatness of spirit. We withstood the hurricanes of fortune, and were not brought to our knees, although the hurricanes shook our home. We took in what was new and assimilated it. Without any wavering or difficulty we absorbed all the best things that came from the outside world. Our heritage in essence is the result of an unceasing synthesis of the most varied currents and influences around a pure Indian foundation. We solicitously preserve and revere all these different currents and influences. But we have linked them into a single whole, profoundly imbued with a truly Indian spirit.

Like the Soviet Union, India is a land of many cultures and many different styles of life. Indian culture, with all its variety, was enriched by the contacts which existed from the earliest times with the lands which form part of Soviet Central Asia, and it has also been enriched by present contacts with all parts of your great country. We too, for our part, without fear of appearing immodest, can say that we also made a contribution to your cultural heritage.

Our liberation movement to a large extent owes its emergence to the decisive influence which Lev Tolstoy exerted on the philosophical views of Mahatma Gandhi on questions of being and struggle, war and peace. Two works of Tolstoy, "The Kingdom of God is Within You," and "Letter to a Hindu," served as a source of inspiration for Gandhi. At that time, Tolstoy was a fierce apostle of nonviolence, Gandhi was still in southern Africa, and he had only made the first steps in the search for truth. Nevertheless, Tostoy, who never met Gandhi and who only exchanged a few letters with him, paid due tribute to the genius of the neophyte. Two months before he died, Tolstoy wrote to Gandhi: The use of violence is incompatible with love as the principal law of life.

Your activity, therefore, in the Transvaal, which seems to us the farthest end of the world, is the most central and most important thing of everything that is now being done in the world. The Great October Revolution took place 7 years later. One of our great poets, Subrahmanya Bharati, who was deeply excited at the changes that revolution brought with it, wrote this: In a brief instant, the people in the uprising declared themselves to be the masters of their lives, proclaimed a great republic, and shattered all the fetters that bound them. All people were free. Thus began the golden age.

Allow me to tell you of another episode in a cultural history. During the period of colonial rule, the great classical dances of India were consigned to oblivion and were even condemned. They were banished from daily life to remote corners. A young and very promising Indian dancer, Rukmini Devi, who held quite innovative and in certain respects even revolutionary views, wanted to breathe new life into the ancient classical forms of our dancing. She happened to see a performance in which that great Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova took part. After that, there was no turning back from her. Inspired by Pavlova's example, Rukmini Devi founded the (?Calacshetra) Dancing School near Madras. This quickly became the center of the rebirth of Indian classical dance. The revival of many those dances, whicy you will see here today and over the next year, became possible largely thanks to that accidental, but at the same time, historic meeting of Indian receptivenes with the great art of your country.

The primary task for us is economic development. However, it will give us nothing if we achieve only material progress, and at the same time lose our cultural roots. Our values, standards, and principles are based on our culture. The culture of India embodies the qualities that have enabled our civilization to live and flourish for 5,000 years. Our culture has enabled us to endure the vicissitudes of fate and not to lose composure when we succeed. It has taught us patience, compassion, calm, and feeling of love for our fellow beings, and sense of our being in unity with all humanity. It has taught us to respect the moral and spiritual values of others, and to rejoice at the enormous and magnificent variety that exists in our world. We must look after, preserve, cherish, and develop all the noble features of our inheritance. At the same time we must share our inheritance with our friends, with those who wish us well. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the opening of the festival of the USSR in India. But now I have the greatest pleasure in declaring the Festival of India in the Soviet Union open. [applause]

Gorbachev Speech

LD031818 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 3 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking today at the Luzhniki stadium, a site of the festival of India in the Soviet Union, said:

Esteemed Mr. Prime Minister.

Dear Indian guests.

Comrades, friends,

This day marks the beginning of an event that has no precedent in the history of the two countries and in international practice on the whole.

Theatre stages and picture galleries, sports and concert halls, exhibition complexes and stadiums in more than a hundred Soviet cities will be placed for one year at the disposal of representatives of the friendly country.

They will introduce Soviet people to India's accomplishments in various spheres of cultures and arts, science and technology, customs and distinguishing features of its great people.

More than 2000 outstanding Indian workers in culture and arts will visit our country. Wherever they go -- I'm sure of that -- they will encounter hospitality and cordial reception, the special and sincere interest which Soviet people attach to India.

Lofty humanism is intrinsic in Indian culture, more than 5000 years old. Architects and sculptors, poets and artists of India glorified the greatness of the human spirit, the greatness of man's creative work, and asserted through their works the triumph of reason, goodness and justice.

It is, probably, commitment to universal human values that is one of the causes of Indian culture's remarkable vitality. Unlike many other civilizations of the past, it has succeeded in surviving invasions of numerous conquerors and 200 years of the burdensome rule of overseas colonialists.

Indian culture has never been characterized by fanatacism or seclusion. On the contrary, it has fruitfully interacted for centuries with the cultures of other peoples, sharing its values and ideas.

We regard the new, free India as a good friend and reliable partner in working for peace and preserving the achievements of the human spirit for this and succeeding generations.

Culture, arts and peace are inseparable. It is the only man's creative genius that makes progress and development possible. An ancient Indian treatise on running state affairs written 2,000 years ago says: 'Peace and work are the foundations of well-being.' How very true.

The festival of India in the Soviet Union is a triumph of Soviet-Indian friendship, a wonderful feast of peace.

I welcome the Indian guests and wish the festival a successful march across our country.

Gorbachev Affirms 'Trust'

LD032153 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2020 GMT 3 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 3 Jul (TASS) -- We are reporting the full text of the speech by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which he delivered in the Indian Embassy in the USSR at a dinner given in his honor by Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India:

Esteemed Rajiv Gandhi, esteemed Mrs Gandhi, gentlemen, and comrades! Today is a great day which we will all remember. It will remain in the memory of our people for a long time. For people around the world, too, this festive day, these meetings and talks -- even if they judge only by the information that they will find in our publications -- are not an ordinary event. It will leave a trace in international politics and in the history of international relations.

There is a strong emotional side to all that has happened over these two days. There are thoughts, and not only those prepared in advance, but also those born in the course of live communication. There are new concrete accords -- in the spheres of politics, economy, science, and in some others, which also is very important.

I cannot but share the feeling that I again experienced during these days. We have known each other for several years, and we know each other quite well. Still, when speaking with Mr Gandhi in this way, face to face, about the innermost and very delicate things, about the most important things in the lives of our countries, about acute problems of world politics, about the policies and condition of other states, one cannot stop feeling amazed. One is amazed that such frankness, such trust, and such readiness to understand each other deeply and put oneself in the place of his interlucutor are possible.

I believe that this is not merely a result of certain personal qualities and a confluence of circumstances. It is, obviously, also a result of very important objective processes, which are sharply changing the whole situation in the world and demanding new relations between states and their leaders, especially those on whom history has laid particular responsibility for the present and future of mankind.

It is precisely such states that we represent. Behind them, these states, there are whole worlds, forming a large proportion of contemporary mankind. Now, this responsibility and feeling of duty which grows from such roots, out of objective requirements -- they dictate precisely such relationships as that which has formed between us and has manifested itself here in Moscow with new vigor.

I have already spoken publicly of what the trip to Delhi last autumn meant for us, for the Soviet Union, and for Soviet-Indian relations. It was not merely the accords achieved as a result of that visit, extremely important though they were, and one of its historic results was the Delhi Declaration, which will go on deep into the 21st century.

It was also that we came into contact with the great Indian people. That very brief but personal acquaintance, coming on top of what we knew about India and what we had an obligation to know about it, convinced us finally of the correctness of the course that we have defined once and for all in relation to your great country, and of the correctness and lofty importance of what was done on that path by our predecessors whom we have remembered again today with kind words.

We are now brought closer together by the fact that both our countries are going through a very complex and critical period in their development. The fate of that choice which has been made by the people of the Soviet Union and India depends on the success of our restructuring and your plans for modernization. A very great deal in the whole of the world history depends in turn on this.

Therefore we will have to -- in both the long and short terms -- build our relations in such a way as to make our cooperation, all cooperation in all spheres, serve the attainment of the great goals which we set ourselves, which we cannot abandon and have no right to abandon out of duty to be faithful to the ideals and the well-being of our people.

To learn to cooperate in unusual circumstances and taking into account the accelerating course of time is not an easy task. Yet one will have to learn, everyone will have to learn. Certain experience has already been accumulated. But there are no grounds for flattering ourselves. The main thing: One should never get nervous, even if something does not come out right. Once the right general path has been chosen, one can always find the right solution to particular problems.

Let me finish here. To wish all those who are present here, and, through them, the Indian people, success in overcoming difficulties, strengthening the country's security, consolidating its unity and carrying forward and holding high the right to its own individual and irreplaceable contribution to civilization. And success in disgracing all your foes.

To the health of Mr Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, his wife Mrs Sono Gandhi, and to the health of the Indian friends, the great Indian people, the great Soviet people, and Soviet-Indian friendship.

IRAQ'S RAMADAN ARRIVES FOR VISIT, MEETS OFFICIALS

Met at Airport, Makes Statement

JN011924 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1828 GMT 1 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC [Revolution Command Council] member and first deputy prime minister, arrived in Moscow today at the head of a delegation on an offical visit of several days to the Soviet Union. During the visit the first deputy prime minister will head the Iraqi side to the meetings of the 17th session of the joint Iraqi-Soviet committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation which will begin here tomorrow.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in Moscow, Ramadan said the meetings of the joint committee will center on discussing all fields of the existing cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union as well as future prospects for promoting cooperation in the service of the two peoples' joint interests.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Boris Aristov, minister of foreign trade; Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid al -Faysal, Iraqi ambassador in Moscow.

Joint Committee Meets

JN021745 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (INA) -- The 17th session of the joint Iraqi-Soviet committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation began here today. During this session, the Iraqi and Soviet sides will discuss aspects of cooperation between the two countries in the economic and technical fields and ways of promoting it in the future in the two countries' interests.

Taha Yasin Tamadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, is chairing the Iraqi side, while Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, is chairing the Soviet side.

The Iraqi delegation comprises Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim and other officials while the Soviet side comprises Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Holds Talks With Gromyko

LD021834 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (TASS) -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Iraq, and Iraqi statesmen accompanying him. The Iraqi delegation is staying in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

Both sides noted that the further strengthening of relations between the USSR and Iraq meets the interests of both peoples, makes a positive contribution to the consolidation of peace and stability in the Near and Middle East.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the Iraqi leadership and people closely follow the drafting of the UN Security Council of a resolution on the Iran-Iraq conflict. The Iraqi side holds that it is important that the resolution should promote the establishment of genuine peace between the states that are still at war.

During the exchange of opinions on questions connected with the development of the present situation in the Iran-Iraq conflict, the Soviet side declared that that war must be immediately stopped. Armed methods of resolving disputed questions must be replaced with a realistic dialogue and peaceful talks. It is only in this way that an entire complicated knot of contradictions between the conflicting sides can be untied. And the lawful interests of both sides should, naturally, be taken into consideration in this.

The United Nations, its Security Council, are called upon to play an important role in the effort exerted now for an earlier end to the senseless bloodshed between the two neighboring countries, Andrey Gromyko said.

Both sides declared against any attempts to use tension in the Persian Gulf area as a pretext for the interference in internal affairs of states situated there.

The sides also discussed principled questions of Soviet-Iraqi relations. They expressed satisfaction with their present state and emphasized that the meeting in Moscow between Mikhail Gorbachev and President of the Republic of Iraq Saddam Husayn had given an important impetus to the development of these relations.

Noting the fundamental significance of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, which was held recently, A.A. Gromyko pointed out that there were dictated by the age and were aimed at powerfully accelerating the Soviet economy, and fully revealing the advantages of socialist democracy, the advantages of socialism as a system of managing and providing for the working masses' fundamental interests.

Following the CPSU Central Committee plenum, the USSR Supreme Soviet session adopted important state laws. These testify to the fact that Soviet society is experiencing an extraordinarily responsible period of development -- the restructuring of economic, social, and intellectual life. We are walking confidently along the road of history, the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium said.

T.Y. Ramadan stated that people in Iraq were attentively following the progress of restructuring in the USSR and feel it will bring success to the Soviet people, and will exert positive influence on the USSR's international relations.

Taking part in the conversation on the Soviet side were D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; V.M. Kamantsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; P.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and Yu.M. Vorontsov, first deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs.

On the Iraqi side were 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Minister of Oil Isam 'Abd al-Rahim; Iraq's Ambassador to the USSR Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid al-Faysal; and other officials.

Discusses Gulf War

JN021609 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (INA) -- Andrey Gromyko, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, met here today with Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, who is currently on a visit to the USSR. During the meeting, the two sides comprehensively reviewed the Iraq-Iran war, the state of affairs in the Arab Gulf region, and the efforts being exerted within the framework of the UN Security Council to find a just and peaceful solution to the war. The two sides agreed on the need to intensify collective efforts with the UN Security Council members to pass an effective resolution that will quickly end the Iraq-Iran war.

Gromyko said his country hopes that the current consultations within the UN Security Council will result in a decisive and binding resolution to end the war. He reiterated the USSR's support for Iraq's stands on the peace initiatives and said that the Soviet command values these stands.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that his country highly values the USSR's stand on the Iraq-Iran war as well as its efforts to find a quick and just solution to this war. Taha Yasin Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings and good wishes to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Andrey Gromyko, and to the Soviet command. Gromyko asked Ramadan to convey his greetings, those of USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and the USSR command to President Saddam Husayn.

The INA correspondent here said that the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere permeated with complete understanding.

Ryzhkov Discusses Relations

LD021912 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1705 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 July (TASS) -- A conversation was held in the Kremlin today between N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and T.Y. Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Iraq, who is on an official visit to Moscow.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the stability of friendly Soviet-Iraqi relations, which rest on the firm foundation of the friendship and cooperation treaty. They confirmed their desire to expand and deepen those relations in various spheres. They noted at the same time the great importance of commercial and economic cooperation between the two countries for the development of such key branches of the Iraqi economy as oil extraction, the power industry, and irrigation.

N.I. Ryzhkov told T.Y. Ramadan about the progress of restructuring in the USSR and the decisions of the June plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which have given a powerful new impetus to deepening the revolutionary social reform process and to strengthening socialism. It was noted that restructuring economic management and the economic mechanism is now the central task determining the success of the whole acceleration strategy.

In a discussion on a number of topical international problems, it was emphasized that at the present exceedingly crucial moment in world development, concrete and decisive actions need to be taken to achieve a turn for the better in international affairs, to erect a barrier against the arms race, and to begin a serious search for settlements to conflicts in different world regions. In this connection, T.Y. Ramadan's attention was drawn to the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries' constructive proposals in the sphere of disarmament, and particularly nuclear disarmament, for averting the militarization of space, and for setting up a comprehensive system of international security for all states and peoples.

T.Y. Ramadan evaluated highly the Soviet Union's peaceable foreign policy and its practical actions geared to a fundamental improvement of the international situation.

During the conversation, they exchanged views on questions related to the present situation in the Iran-Iraq conflict. Serious concern was voiced at the absence of progress toward settling it and also at the increased tension in the Persian Gulf, which is being used by the U.S. to build up its military presence there.

N.I. Ryzhkov reaffirmed that the Soviet Union resoulutely advocates the earliest ending of the Iran-Iraq war and the settlement of all disputed questions between the two states by political means and is prepared to promote steps that could contribute to a reduction of tension in the conflict and to defusing the Persian Gulf situation.

Present on the Soviet side at the conversation, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, was V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Other Soviet and Iraqi officials were also present.

Further on Ryzhkov Meeting

JN021838 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (INA) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, here today. Ramadan expressed Iraq's pride in the cordial and advanced relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union and the Iraqi command's desire to promote these relations. Ryzhkov praised the relations between the two friendly countries and stressed that his country's policy is to enhance cooperation with Iraq in the two countries' interests.

Ramadan reviewed the Iraq-Iran war developments and emphasized the strong position of the Iraqi Armed Forces all along the front in defense of Iraq's sovereignty. He also referred to Iraq's peace efforts and to the five principles contained in President Saddam Husayn's letter to the Iranaian rulers for ending the war and seeking a just and comprehensive solution to the conflict.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers reiterated his country's support for Iraq's peace efforts which seek to spread security and stability in the region and valued Iraq's repeated efforts and acceptance of the international resolutions for ending the war.

The members of the delegation accompanying Taha Yasin Ramadan attended the meeting on the Iraqi side while Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials attended it on the Soviet side.

VORONTSOV MEETS IRAN'S LARIJANI IN GENEVA

LD300946 Moscow TASS in English 0931 GMT 30 Jun 87

[Text] Geneva June 30 TASS -- Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has met here with Mohammad Larijani, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In continuation of the exchange of views started recently in Tehran, they discussed questions connected with a further development of Soviet-Iranian relations, the Iranian-Iraqi war and the worsening of the situation in the Persian Gulf.

IRAN WARNS U.S. OF PERILS OF GULF INVASION

PM010959 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent V. Shevchenko dispatch: "Persian Gulf: Ready To Repulse"]

[Text] Kuwait -- The United States would be taught a bitter lesson if it were to invade the Persian Gulf, Tehran radio declared, pointing out that the expansion of the U.S. military presence in the Gulf is "preparation for aggression against Iran."

The Iranian Navy conducted combat exercises in the Strait of Hormuz in the south of the Persian Gulf which were attended by Iran's Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and top military personnel and statesmen on board the destroyer "Alborz". Hoseyn Alai, commander of the Navy in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, declared that Iran has all the necessary means to repulse an aggressor.

He also emphasized that Tehran is against the use of the U.S. flag by Kuwaiti tankers and the fact that they are escorted by U.S. warships.

NAJIBULLAH NEWS CONFERENCE CITES RECONCILIATION

LD291154 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1056 GMT 29 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, 29 Jun (TASS) -- Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, said on Sunday that the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan is being implemented successfully. Speaking at a news conference for participants in the International Conference of Journalists of Nonaligned Countries which has ended here, he noted that the success of the new course is indicated by these figures: During the past 7 years, 37,000 refugees returned to the homeland, while 62,000 returned during the 5 months of the reconciliation policy. Whereas before, in the course of a year, 250-300 kishlaks came under the control of people's power, in the past 5 months the control of the people's power has been established over 1,335 kishlaks, all of them by peaceful means.

At the present time, the Afghan leader noted, overall people's power has been established in more than 8,600 kishlaks, 142 regions, 68 districts, 45 towns including in all provincial centers. This area consists of the overwhelming majority of the territory suitable for habitation. The opposition is mainly concentrated in deserts and mountains unsuitable for life in the region.

The National Reconciliation Commission, Najibullah went on to say, has put forward a proposal to prolong the duration of the cease-fire. The final decision on this matter will be taken on 14 July.

In response to our peace-loving actions we await a response from the opposing side, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee underlined. This involves primarily steps aimed at putting an end, as soon as possible, to the bloodshed and to the fratricidal war, and at establishing peace as soon as possible over our long-suffering land.

National reconciliation, Najibullah pointed out, is not a 1-day action, not a one-way street. Stopping the war and concentrating the people's efforts on solving the tasks of construction now depends only on the opposing side, behind which there stands American imperialism, its NATO allies and regional reaction.

Objective conditions exist in Afghanistan for creating a real, effective coalition of all the peace-loving forces of society, the Afghan leader went on. We are ready to cooperate within the framework of a coalition government with any political, social, and national forces which agree to cease the fratricidal bloodshed immediately and allow no further use of armed force in resolving internal problems.

We support frank [otkrovennyy] and constructive dialogue with that sector of the opposing forces which are on the territory of Afghanistan. As a result, up to date 25,000 armed and deluded people have gone over to the side of the people's power, and the process of negotiations is continuing with over 100 armed groups, uniting several tens of thousands of people.

Answering a question about the talks with the ex-king of Afghanistan, Najibullah said: "We leave the door for talks and reconciliation open to all those who wish for a peaceful future for their country and come out against war as a way to resolve problems. The people are repelled by war, therefore talks on removing these problems are fairly natural."

The Afghan leader went on to say that one of these days the law on the legalization and the setting up of new parties will be published.

Touching upon DRA policy in the international arena, Najibullah expressed the hope that the Pakistani Government will adopt a more realistic position in its approach to resolving the situation around Afghanistan. Reconciliation in Afghanistan, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee stressed, would have a positive effect on the situation in the region, something that undoubtedly answers the interests of the peoples of all countries and of Pakistan itself.

DRA PROTESTS TO IRAN OVER AFGHAN RETURNEES

LD022019 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul July 2 TASS -- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) lodged a protest with Iran today in view of the attitude of the Iranian authorities that continue preventing Afghans, who wish to return home, from doing so.

A note, delivered to the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Afghanistan, points out that Tehran rejected the DRA's proposal on arranging charter flights of airliners of the Afghan air company to Iran to bring Afghan repatriates home.

The note emphasizes that "such an approach shows the Iranian authorities' willingness to promote a solution to the Afghan refugees problem".

"Such actions run counter to the norms of international law and to the principles of goodneighborliness, and infringe upon the refugees' right voluntarily to return home", the protest note says.

FRELIMO OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON SOVIET AID, RELATIONS

PM051755 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 25 Jun 87 p 3

[Interview with Jorge Rebelo, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, by V. Silanin under the rubric "SELSKAYA ZHIZN Interview": "With Confidence and Optimism": date and place of interview unspecified; first paragraph is SELSKAYA ZHIZN introduction]

[Excerpt] The people of Mozambique celebrate their national holiday 25 June -- Independence Day (1975). This day is the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo). The Frelimo Party, guided by the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, was founded in 1977. At the request of the SELSKAYA ZHIZN editorial office, international affairs journalist V. Silanin met with Jorge Rebelo, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, and asked him to answer the newspaper's questions.

[Silanin] How do you assess the development of friendly relations between the USSR and Mozambique at the present stage?

[Rebelo] From the very beginning our relations were based, as they are still based today, on the great help which the Soviet Union gave to the people of Mozambique in their struggle for national liberation, on our ideological closeness, and on the fact that we are today traveling the same socialist path.

But these relations at first lacked a particular direction, a framework in which concrete actions could be placed and a prospects determined. All this was achieved as a result of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation Between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique, whose 10th anniversary our two countries celebrated recently. After its signing our links in various spheres expanded and deepened. The Soviet Union is giving us assistance in education, public health, the development of agriculture, the extraction of minerals, the fishing industry, and civil construction -- and these are only some of the spheres in which we cooperate. Lately the Soviet Union has delivered products to our country amounting the sum of R20 million.

In addition to this, consultations on topical questions of our time are held more often than before between our parties and governments, we also exchange the experience of work within our countries.

The Soviet Union has helped and continues resolutely to help in strengthening our economic and defense potential. Thanks to this we have been able to withstand the racist RSA's aggressive aspirations.

A program of "economic rehabilitation" is now being implemented in our country. This is quite an extensive program aiming to promote Mozambique's economic and social development. The main attention is being focused on developing agriculture. Mozambique is an agrarian country and we give priority to the development of this sector. Within the sector we are encouraging the development of family farms, which now produce 70 percent of agricultural output. But fulfilling this program requires considerable resources. And precisely in the spirit of the relations enshrined in the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, the Soviet Union has already expressed its readiness to support the fulfillment of this program. There is no doubt that our relations will develop successfully in the future. [passage omitted]

GDR'S MUECKENBERGER WRITES ON GDR-USSR LINKS

PM081011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 87 First Edition p 5

[Article by Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and president of the German-Soviet Friendship Society: "Glorious Anniversary"]

[Text] Berlin, 30 June -- The German-Soviet Friendship Society is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The friendly relations, fraternal alliance, and cooperation between the peoples of the GDR and the land of Lenin have never before been so deep and all-embracing as since the 11th SED Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress.

At this time of celebration we remember that friendship with the Soviet Union has long-standing revolutionary traditions among our people, particularly among class conscious, progressive forces. These traditions are founded on the consistent stand taken by the Communist Party of Germany and its chairman, Ernst Thaelmann, who was ardently in favor of friendship between our peoples. That is why he is still an example to us today, as is Karl Liebknecht, who said 70 years ago at the time of the Great October Socialist Revolution, thereby giving voice to the thoughts of the most aware section of the German working class: "A new and better world is just beginning."

The German-Soviet Friendship Society has taken up the cause of its predecessors at the time of the Weimar Republic, such as the Friends of the New Russia Society founded in 1923 and the Union of Friends of the Soviet Union set up in 1928. In 1933, when it was banned by the fascist rulers, this union had 60,000 members.

Under SED leadership, the friendship society works actively in the GDR to ensure that everything championed by its predecessors is fully realized. The importance of the friendship and fraternal alliance between our peoples was stressed by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, at the 11th SED Congress. He spoke of "the unshakeability of our fraternal alliance with the CPSU and the USSR and of this great revolutionary achievement."

Two years after the German people's liberation from Nazi barbarism -- a historic feat by the Soviet Armed Forces which will remain forever written in the history of mankind -- on 30 June 1947 the Society for the Study of Soviet Culture began its activity. At this time a large segment of the population was still prey to anti-Sovietism -- instilled in them by reactionary Nazi forces -- which was organically linked with nationalism, revanchism, and fascist megalomania. This spiritual poisoning of the first German worker-peasant state has now been ended once and for all. A considerable role in this has been played by the German-Soviet Friendship
Society, and we have always been able to rely on the assistance and support of our Soviet friends and comrades.

It has been extremely necessary to counteract the distorted "enemy image," formed over decades, with the truth about the USSR's real role and aims. Even today, incidentally -- one has only to think of certain forces in the FRG or West Berlin -- we see our task as setting the truth in opposition to the efforts of those who regard the Soviet Union as an "evil empire" or as a threat to the much vaunted "Western freedom."

At its second congress in June 1949 the Society for the Study of Soviet Culture was renamed the German-Soviet Friendship Society. It was not simply a matter of changing the name. It was in line with progressive people's growing awareness, which was itself the result of the society members' vigorous political activity.

Today the German-Soviet Friendship Society has approximately 6.3 million members. This kind of development has become possible only in our socialist homeland, where friendship, fraternal alliance, and combat cooperation with the Soviet Union have constitutional backing.

We consider the following to be the main tasks in our activity. We must always remind people of the history of the formation and consolidation of our friendship, which were connected with a serious class struggle. In line with the organization's specific character, we must also constantly be involved in resolving vital issues raised by the 11th SED Congress. We must convey the idea of a socialist future again and again to all citizens, and the young generation in particular, this future being linked not least with close fraternal cooperation and combat collaboration between the GDR and the Soviet Union and other socialist states; and we must inspire the working people to realize the future.

We now link work on these tasks with preparations for the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution. The first socialist revolution in history opened an era where, for the first time, the working class, supported by the working peasantry and progressive forces, successfully liberated itself from the domination of imperialism and exploiters and took power into its own hands.

As an integral part of the GDR National Front, the German-Soviet Friendship Society makes an active contribution to implementing the 11th SED Congress decisions and to the struggle to ensure peace and eliminate the threat of nuclear war. Since Lenin's Decree on Peace to the present day, when mankind is discussing the proposals of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the initiatives of the GDR and other socialist states, and the documents of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee session held a month ago in Berlin, socialism has done everything to protect our world and ensure peaceful conditions for building a new society.

Continuing a dialogue with all forces of realism and reason is becoming increasingly important. In this respect it is essential not to let up our efforts in the struggle against anticommunism, the falsification of the aims and policies of the USSR and other socialist countries, and also the distortion of the principles of socialist internationalism and solidarity. Consequently, we believe that peaceful coexistence and the struggle for peace in no way eliminate political-ideological struggle. Our ideological adversary makes daily attempts to force the poison of anticommunism into socialist countries through a multitude of channels. We are guided by the fact that active work through the friendship society is primarily political-ideological work, which must be very closely connected with real life.

Since our friendship society was first founded we have cooperated with the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. For a long time this cooperation has not only been carried out at central level, but also at the level of our organization's bezirk and kreis administrations. We also maintain various ties with the group of Soviet Armed Forces in the GDR. Our activity thereby also serves to strengthen our armies' fraternity in arms, which is particularly important here, on the sensitive line between socialism and capitalism. This helps to strengthen peace.

We strive to reflect the lofty requirements of the joint program for all-round cooperation through 2000 in our work.

Implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress, the peoples of the GDR and the USSR try to enhance the attractive force of socialism and ensure peace.

The main principle of our actions corresponds to a principle enshrined in the SED Program: "Inviolable friendship and cooperation with the CPSU and the Soviet people have been, are, and remain the source of the GDR's strength and the basis of its development."

HONECKER CITES 'REAL OPPORTUNITY' FOR ARMS ACCORDS

PM081257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Favoring Equitable Dialogue"]

[Text] Berlin, 2 Jul -- The disarmament proposal and peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states have opened up a real opportunity for achieving disarmament accords. This was stated by E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, during a reception here for K. Wedemeier, mayor of Bremen.

E. Honecker declared that in its relations with the FRG the GDR would do everything in its power to contribute, by means of dialogue and cooperation, to the implementation of a policy of peaceful coexistence. He resolutely denounced the efforts of certain circles in the FRG to question the postwar realities and the system of European treaties.

PRAVDA NOTES JARUZELSKI COMMENTS ON ARMS REDUCTION

PM080943 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "W. Jaruzelski's Speech"]

[Text] Warsaw, 1 Jul -- We attach enormous importance to the Soviet-U.S. talks and especially to the elimination of medium-range missiles, which could be a first step [as published], W. Jaruzelski, chairman of the Polish State Council, stated at a newss conference in Tokyo. A report on it was put out by PAP.

Such a step, he said, would be the first real specific action of the postwar period to limit arms in such an important and dangerous sphere as nuclear weapons. In light of this, Poland ardently supports all efforts in this sphere. We believe that the Soviet proposals are courageous, open, and realistic in their content. We hope that U.S. actions will follow the same road. The United States has nuclear missiles and nuclear weapons delivery vehicles sited in various parts of the Far East and the Pacific. The question of reducing and eliminating these means in this particular region is to be the topic of separate talks, which we also wish success.

Poland has put forward an initiative of its own -- a plan for the reduction of arms and strengthening of confidence in Central Europe. It is a very realistic plan, in our view. It takes account of the interests of all parties involved, has the support of all our allies, and has attached the attention of most of our Western partners.

POLISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHIEF RECEIVED IN MOSCOW

PM081427 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] R.-B.I. Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, met 3 July with the Polish Democratic Party delegation headed by T. Mlynczak, chairman of the party's Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Polish Council of State, which is in Moscow at the invitation of the Tsentrosoyuz Board.

M.P. Trunov, chairman of the Tsentrosoyuz Board, took part in the talk.

The same day a cooperation agreement between the Tsentrosoyuz and the Polish Democratic Party was signed. Moreover, the organizations agreed to collaborate in international forums on questions of the struggle for peace and mutual understanding among the peoples and on cooperation in environmental protection.

The head of the Polish delegation called the agreement that was signed and the Moscow talks a success. The accords that have been reached, he noted at a meeting with journalists, will promote the modernization of the Polish and Soviet national economies and the further strengthening of the fraternal relations existing between the Soviet Union and Poland.

POLISH SPOKESMAN REJECTS 'SUBVERSIVE' EFFORTS

PM081309 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jun 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Subversive Actions"]

[Text] Warsaw, 27 June -- Recently particular interest in the Polish Army has been observed among Western subversive centers. Not a day goes by without one of the well-known subversive radio stations referring to the Polish Army's problems for simply inflammatory purposes, endeavoring to undermine the armed forces' prestige in society, Brigade General L. Wojtaski, for the Polish Ministry of National Defense press spokesman, has stated in an interview with ZOLNIERA WOLNOSCI.

Dwelling on the activity of the pseudopacifist grouping "Freedom and Peace" ("Wolnosc i Pokoj"), which is noisily advertised by propagandist subversion centers, the ministry spokesman stressed that now, as never before, the Poles realize the danger of the catastrope threatening the world.

We must display an especially concerned attitude toward the activities of people, who, while speaking about "freedom and peace," are in fact harming values common to all mankind. The Polish "defenders of peace" do not see any threat to peace in U.S. policy. Only the Polish forces appear in a bad light to them. According to the ideas of the "Freedom and Peace" grouping's representatives, this army and particularly the fact of its allied links within the framework of the Warsaw Pact constitutes...a threat to peace. Therefore, "fighting " for peace, they urge the unilateral disarmament of the Polish Armed Forces and the weakening of their defense capability by refusing military service, L. Wojtasik pointed out.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON WEIZSAECKER, GENSCHER VISIT

Genscher, Shevardnadze Meet

LD071155 Hamburg DPA in German 0946 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jul (DPA) -- The German-Soviet treaties on scientific and technical cooperation in various spheres, signed in April and May, have come into force. The foreign ministers of both countries, Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Eduard Shevardnadze, today signed a protocol in the Soviet Foreign Ministry guest house under which the individual agreements in the spheres of science and technology, health and agricultural research automatically come into effect.

Genscher and Shevardnadze earlier held talks at which disarmament issues were discussed, particularly the question of medium-range missiles. During the signing of the protocol, Shevardnadze turned to Genscher and said: "It would be nice if this were the INF agreement." Genscher replied: "But then it would not be me sitting here."

Further Report

LD071157 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 7 TASS -- Within the framework of the continuing official visit of the Federal president of the Federal Republic of Germany, Richard von Weizsaecker to the Soviet Union, today Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., had a meeting with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, minister of foreign affairs of the F.R.G.

The exchange of opinions on a broad range of urgent international problems and bilateral relations proceeded in the spirit of straightforwardness and desire to bring the views of the sides closer together.

On the same day the two foreign ministers signed a protocol putting into effect the inter-governmental agreement on cooperation in science and technology. Three inter-departmental agreements on cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic power, agrarian research, public health and medical science take effect simultaneously.

Genscher Views 'Censorship'

LD071631 Hamburg DPA in German 1530 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Moscow 7 Jul (DPA) -- Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, at his meeting today with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in the Soviet Foreign Ministry guest house in Tolstoy Street, expressed "astonishment" about the censorship of Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker's speech of the previous evening by the party paper PRAVDA. The shortened version of the speech omitted, among other things, the statement by the Federal president about better emigration opportunities for ethnic German Sviet citizens and about the division of Germany. Genscher underlined the importance the Federal Government accords these problems. According to diplomatic circles, there was no intial reaction to this diplomatic complaint.

A further obstacle on the path to improved German-Soviet relations is apparently the 72 Pershing-1A missiles possessed by the Federal Armed Forces. The Soviet Union expressly wants the warheads of these "German" missiles, which are under U.S. control, to be included in the zero solution, while the Federal Government rejects this demand in accordance with the other NATO partners. No solution to this problem is apparent today: Spokesman confirmed that both sides merely exchanged their unaltered positions on this.

But Genscher and Shevardnadze agree that a new page has to be turned in relations between the two states. Gorbachev proposed this to Genscher in July 1986. [passage omitted]

Weizsaecker, Gorbachev Meet

LD071448 Hamburg DPA in German 1405 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- In political talks lasting about 2 and 1/2 hours, General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker today agreed on a visit to Bonn by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. The Federal president announced to journalists immediately after the meeting that contacts between the two countries are to be continued "beginning" with Shevardnadze's visit. People in Bonn have been figuring on a visit in the fall for a long time.

The meeting, regarded as the climax of his 6-day visit to the Soviet Union, was described by Weizsaecker as "intensive, serious, open and trusting". "One way or another," Weizsaecker said afterward, there is to be a meeting between Gorbachev and Chancellor Kohl, for whom he conveyed "warm greetings" from the general secretary.

Yakovlev, Genscher Hold Talks

LD071735 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1706 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jul (TASS) -- Alaksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs. In the course of businesslike and frank [otkrovennoy] conversation, topical questions of Soviet-West German cooperation, the development of new thinking in the context of the realities taking shape in the international arena, and the need to reassert the principles of peace and cooperation in Europe were examined.

Gromyko Speaks at Dinner

PM071049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

["A.A. Gromyko Speech"]

[Text] On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I cordially welcome in Moscow the eminent guests: Richard von Weizsaecker, Federal president of the FRG, his spouse, and the accompanying persons.

We view your visit as a good sign -- an expression of the desire to improve mutual understanding and trust in relations between our countries by the FRG.

We say "welcome" to you and express the hope that your forthcoming meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and your talks and conversations on Soviet soil will give a new impulse to the development of political dialogue and stepping-up of the varied mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the FRG, and will help comprehension of each other's positions on the issues of peace, security and disarmament better.

You have arrived in the Soviet Union at a very interesting time, Mr President: A time of great changes and achievements in our country, when truly revolutionary processes of restructuring and profound democratization in the life of Soviet society are developing.

The recent plenum of the Central Committee of our party was devoted to the concrete tasks of this gigantic work.

It is of outstanding importance for the life of the country. Laws have just been adopted at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which create a reliable basis for the dynamic development of the Soviet economy, and for raising the well being of the Soviet people.

The aim of restructuring is to raise our socialist society to a new level of progress. All of this is the best confirmation that the Soviet Union has no other thoughts then peaceful construction, than labor in conditions of peace.

Restructuring and preparations for war are simply incompatible. They are direct opposites. All those who ascribe evil intentions to us and continue to frighten the world with the "Soviet threat" ought to think about that. Such people are still looking at the world through glasses which make them color-blind. They do not want to see the world as it is.

Anticommunism, which, in the words of Thomas Mann, is the greatest stupidity of the 20th century, and its variant, anti-Sovietism, are as unacceptable in today's world as the whipping up of hostility to any other state.

During your visit, Mr President, you will be able to see for yourself that the strategy of perfecting society and improving the life of the Soviet people determines the philosophy of our foreign policy, too. Its essence is the prevention of nuclear war and the development of links -- trade, economic, scientific and technical, cultural and others -- with all states.

We favor honest competition between the two systems, excluding both "hot" and "cold" war, both economic and psychological, and of equal mutually-beneficial cooperation.

Our foreign policy has been expounded on more than one occasion, openly [otkryto] and in depth, in corresponding statements by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

As never before so concretely, we are faced with a choice: to survive or to perish together. Our joint sensible choice can only be one: mutual interaction and cooperation. We resolutely reject the oppositive course -- confrontation.

We are firmly convinced that peace and cooperation need to be built to last, and on the foundation of disarmament and security for all. Therefore, the Soviet Union proposes a program of complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the present century.

Space must remain peaceful and it must be mastered to the benefit of our planet and not to its detriment. Together with the other socialist states, our country has come forward with an initiative to reduce conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. There is a realistic possibility of a total ban on chemical weapons with strict international verification [kontrol]. For many months the Soviet Union unilaterally observed a moratorium on nuclear explosions and, as before, it is an ardent advocate of halting all nuclear tests. Unfortunately, we do not perceive an equivalent reaction, in keeping with the realities of the time, from the Western partners in response to our proposals. They are still limiting themselves to good intentions.

We live in Europe, linked by a single historical destiny. Our duty is to maintain peace here, not on postulates of strength, but on the basis of the realities which have come about, on principles of mutual respect and cooperation. The European process must pass naturally into its next phase, of which an important element would be real disarmament and the strengthening of trust and cooperation in all spheres.

We invite the Europeans, including the Federal Republic, to do some work together on the concept of building a "common European home." Each resident of this home will, of course, adhere to their own philosophy, to their own political choice, and keep their own way of living. But they must all, as we understand it, be united by a desire for goodneighborliness and for creating the kind of European arrangement that would ensure a peaceful future for each state and would rule out the very possibility of war being waged on European soil.

The talks now taking place in Geneva on ridding Europe of nuclear missiles -- medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- are a serious test of the readiness of states to go from words to deeds. And although they are being conducted between the Soviet Union and the United States of America, to a large measure their outcome depends on the position of West European countries. We hope that the FRG Government will facilitate not in words but in deeds the success of these talks and the freeing of Europe from whole classes of nuclear weapons.

Relations between our two countries are packed full of examples of how important it is to make the right move at the right time. Having signed the Moscow Treaty in 1970, our countries drew a line under the past and opened a door to the future.

This treaty, treaties between the FRG and other socialist countries, and the Helsinki Final Act have consolidated the postwar political-territorial realities and met the demands of stability and peaceful development in Europe.

The Soviet Union remembers your speech in connection with the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, Mr President. The idea sounded clearly in that speech: Never again must a threat to peace come from German soil. We treasure that declaration.

We believe that the USSR and FRG, in spite of their political and ideological differences, can be good partners. A new, broad approach is needed here in the spirit of the time, and concrete acts, contacts, links are needed. These ideas are close to our heart.

One cannot call it a coincidence that when representatives of the Soviet Union and the FRG begin to speak of bilateral relations, they always come to the conclusion that objective conditions for their development do exist, and not a few either. This has happened more than once.

It is noteworthy that this idea is voiced not only by FRG officials, but also by representatives of the business circles. They emphasize perhaps to an even greater extent the fact that both countries have the potential for strengthening relations for mutual benefit. It would be good if this aspiration of both sides to develop trade, economic, scientific and technical, as well as other ties is translated into the language of practice, the language of real deeds.

Allow me to express confidence in the fact that the Soviet Union and the FRG will conduct affairs in such a way as to fill the future chapters of relations with rich and mutually advantageous contents for the benefit of our peoples and the cause of universal peace.

We wish you, Mr President, and all our guests, good health, prosperity, and the FRG people a peaceful future.

Gromyko, Weizsaecker Hold Talks

LD082139 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Talks were held today in the Kremlin between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and FRG Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker.

Taking part in the talks were: on the Soviet side, P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Yu.A. Kvitsinskiy, USSR ambassador to the FRG; and on the FRG side, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, deputy Federal chancellor and Federal foreign minister; Andreas Meyer-Landrut, FRG ambassador to the USSR; and other officials.

The sides were unanimous in their assessment of the frank [oktrovennaya] conversation which took place the day before between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and R. von Weizsaecker, Federal president of the FRG, in which fundamental issues of the contemporary international situation and bilateral relations were discussed. That conversation, like the visit of the FRG president and the exchange of views which took place with him as a whole, showed that despite existing ideological differences there are a number of areas where the positions of the USSR and the FRG are close or coincide.

The general opinion among the participants of the talks is that in their own interests and also in the interests of peace in Europe and the whole world, it is necessary to affirm in international affairs the political philosophy which rejects wars, both nuclear and conventional, and which aims at peace and the joint resolution of the problems with which humanity is faced. The main problem is the elimination of the threat of a nuclear war and the establishment of an effective system of universal security.

During the talks, A.A. Gromyko elucidated the foreign policy strategy of the Soviet State and stressed that we would like to see in our partners an unprejudiced interpretation of our country's policy of restructuring and acceleration of social and economic development. The change of vast significance taking place in the Soviet Union provide fresh confirmation of the peaceful direction and consistency of the USSR's foreign policy and of the reliability of the USSR as a partner in external economic affairs.

The sides devoted particular attention to questions of relations between the USSR and the FRG. The Soviet leadership, A.A. Gromyko declared, views the prospects for cooperation with the FRG in a spirit of goodwill and consideration of mutual interests, and expects the same from the West German side.

A discussion took place on the state of trade and economic relations. There was talk on such forms of cooperation as joint enterprises, which can only benefit FRG and USSR economies. However, in certain circles in the West, skepticism has been expressed over these initiatives, although such views are not supported by any real facts or experience. At the same time there is great potential there, for instance in the sphere of the development of industrial cooperation.

Problems over a broad spectrum of scientific and technical cooperation were reviewed. There is much of value in the sphere of science and technology in the USSR and the FRG, which provides an objective basis for expanding exchanges. It is in the mutual interest to act in such a way as to introduce the available achievements in pure and applied science into production quicker. The first agreements meeting these aims, on cooperation in agriculture, health and the peaceful uses of atomic energy have already been signed, which opens up good prospects.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the wide nature of cooperation in various spheres of culture, and spoke in favor of its further development.

When discussing political issues, A.A. Gromyko stressed that the Soviet Union has submitted important proposals on the elimination of medium-range and tactical and operational missiles in Europe. The position taken by the FRG regarding the Pershing-1A missiles on its territory gives cause for regret. Such a position is capable of spoiling things -- the vessel might be wrecked before it is launched. This chance to achieve an agreement has to be taken. Not only the Soviet Union and the United States are interested in this agreement on eliminating missiles, but also the FRG, other European states, and the entire world. It would be useful for the FRG Government to reconsider this greatly significant issue once more.

Some states make the mistake of trying to use West Berlin as a detonator and a source of provocation in Europe. The hope was expressed that the FRG would exercise all its influence in the interests of the strict observance of the existing agreement on West Berlin.

The Soviet side stated that the FRG is continuing to shield from justice war criminals who perpetrated grave crimes on USSR territory during the last war. The Soviet people have not forgotten their atrocities and they cannot remain unpunished. A list of war criminals whose extradition is demanded by the Soviet Union was handed to the FRG president.

At the conclusion of the talks, R. von Weizsaecker stressed that everything will be done by the FRG side to place relations between the two states on a firm and friendly basis.

The two sides voiced their positive appraisal of the visit by the FRG Federal president to the Soviet Union, and expressed the conviction that this visit would be followed by further meetings, including meetings at a high level, which would be of benefit to both peoples and to the cause of peace, security, and cooperation in Europe.

FRG 'War Criminals' Viewed

LD091530 Hamburg DPA in German 1452 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Leningrad (DPA) -- Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker today declined to comment on the list of war criminals surprisingly handed to him by head of state Andrey Gromyko in Moscow yesterday. Delegation circles regard this list as a kind of retaliation to the demands by the president of the German Red Cross for clarification of the fate of missing persons.

The list, drawn up in Russian, contains 15 names, it was learned in Leningrad. According to observers, the handing over of the list reflects the coolness and reserve being shown to the Germans by some of the Soviet leaders. The opinion of experts is that there is no actual basis for extradition, because there is no relevant treaty between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union.

Genscher on Improved Ties

LD090957 Hamburg DPA in German 0911 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow/Cologne (DPA) -- Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has underlined the desire of the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union for a "cardinal improvement" in their relations as the decisive result of the visit by President Richard von Weizsaecker to Moscow. In an interview with Deutschlandfunk, Genscher said today: "Both governments are looking forward, both are interested in fundamentally improving German-Soviet relations."

This, Genscher said, is not only important for both sides, "but this is of significance for the situation in Europe overall." Historical experience shows "that German-Soviet relations have a decisive influence, to the good and to the bad, on the situation in the whole of Europe." Genscher described the agreed visit to Bonn by Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze and the considered meeting between Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev as signs of the seriousness of Bonn's and Moscow's intentions to improve relations.

Genscher came out against those doubting the sincerity of the Soviet policy of restructuring and openness. Rather it is necessary to make use of this policy in favor of cooperation between East and West. "If this policy now becomes more flexible, if it is also ready internally and externally to give up the old and to seek the new, then we should not shrink back timidly or mistrustfully, rather we should bravely sieze the chances lying there."

Further Report

LD081741 Hamburg DPA in German 1521 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- In a final talk with Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said that the Soviet Union was willing "to work toward a fundamental improvement of relations." This was stated by Bonn Foreign Ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog to journalists following the 1-hour meeting. Both sides assessed Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker's visit to the USSR as "significant" [bedeutsam].

Genscher and Shevardnadze would meet in New York at the end of September and on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly to prepare, among other things, the visit to Bonn "this year" by the Soviet foreign minister. Prior to this, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy will come to Bonn to prepare the Shevardnadze visit, Chrobog said.

The two foreign ministers also agreed on talks between experts at the bilateral level, among whom a group would prepare the Shevardnadze visit. The focal points of the visit were the expansion of economic relations and scientific exchanges, Chrobog said. Two further groups should deal with the problem of chemical weapons and with regional issues.

Weizsaecker Holds News Conference

LD081609 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, July 8 TASS -- "The mission of the current state visit to the Soviet Union was to open a new chapter in relations between our two countries, place these relations on a broad and long-term basis and mark a point of departure to be followed by future agreements and concrete cooperation," said Richard von Weizsaecker, Federal president of the Federal Republic of Germany. "In my opinion, this mission has been accomplished."

The Federal president spoke at a meeting with Soviet and foreign journalists at the press center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R. today.

"At the same time it was not a simple thing to attain that aim. Relations between the Soviet Union and the F.R.G. cannot be compared with relations which the U.S.S.R. maintains with any other European country. This is explained both by the past and by the differences which emerged as a consequence of mistrust between the East and the West. At the same time big hopes were linked with the Moscow talks as regards the development of cooperation in various spheres -- trade, economic, scientific, cultural, and others," the Federal president went on to say.

"Talks held with the Soviet leaders demonstrated that the sides were unanimous on the point that disarmament in all fields is possible and necessary," Richard von Weizsaecker emphasized. "Genuine security is possible only if each side treats with understanding the security of the other."

"During the conversations with the Soviet leaders we found a common understanding as to what our 'common European home' should be like," Richard von Weizsaecker said. "The F.R.G. is to play a special role in that process because of two facts. First, that country is one of the leading partners in the European Economic Community. Second, the F.R.G. is situated on the line of partition between the two differing systems. Taken together, all this explains the interest our country has in promoting goodneighborly relations in the 'common European home' -- in the field of economic cooperation, technology, science and human contacts."

The Federal president then positively appraised the Soviet proposal for an international conference on humanitarian issues. He is of the opinion, that it could have a positive impact on East-West relations. [punctuation as received]

Visits Leningrad

LD091102 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Leningrad July 9 TASS -- Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker, who is currently on an official state visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has arrived in Leningrad today. He will stay one day in that second biggest Soviet city.

In the airport, where the national flags of the FRG, the USSR and the Russian Federation were hoisted, the Federal president was welcomed by Kazimir Labetskiy, vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Soviet.

From the airport Richard von Weizsaecker, accompanied by an honourary escort of motorcyclists, went to the city. On the route he made a stop-over in Victory Square to see the monument to the heroic defenders of Leningrad.

The granite and bronze monument towering in the centre of the square is a tribute to the courage and staunchness shown by Leningraders during the years of the Second World War. Leningrad was besieged by the Nazi troops for 900 days.

The president laid flowers to the group sculpture monument "blockade". He also visited the Memory Hall and left a note in the honourary visitors' book. The president was presented an album of photographs of the memorial with wishes of eternal peace. Receiving the gift, the president said that "this is the aim of his visit to the Soviet Union."

Richard von Wiezsaecker was assigned the government residence, over which the national flag of the FRG was hoisted. The president is accompanied on his visit to Leningrad by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, deputy Federal chancellor and the FRG foreign minister.

Dinner Held

LD092320 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Leningrad, 9 Jul (TASS) -- The Leningrad Gorispolkom today gave a dinner in honor of Richard von Weizsaecker, Federal president of the FRG.

The president and his wife were welcomed by Kazimir Labetskiy, deputy chairman of the gorispolkom.

"It is pleasant for us to note that our city is making its contribution to the development of contacts with the FRG," he said. "General consulates of our countries are working successfully in Leningrad and Hamburg. Leningrad has a direct air link with Hamburg and with Franfurt-am-Main. The most varied products from more than 20 major industrial enterprises are supplied to your country from Leningrad. A variety of equipment, technological lines, pipes, and other products arrive at Leningrad maritime port from the FRG. The mutual exchange of licenses has been set up. Each year the city on the river Neva receives tens of thousands of West German tourists, and exhibitions are organized. There are constant study visits by FRG students in the educational establishments of our city."

Kazimir Labetskiy said: "We consider your visit to be an important stage in the improvement of mutual understanding and confidence, as the desire for the further development of goodneighborly relations and cooperation between our countries."

Richard von Weizsaecker made a speech in reply. "Awaiting this visit," he stated, "I experienced a sense of agitation. We recall how for 900 long days, Leningrad was starved, bombed, and strafed. Today we honored the memory of the nameless victims, numbering hundreds of thousands, with a sense of reverence and sorrow. The sufferings of war, which we ought to have foreseen, have since then left a deep mark upon us. I am here today, wishing to do everything in my power to preserve future generations from everything which war brings: from the violence, sorrow, and death. We will consign nothing to oblivion. Recollection endows us with the strength to live, in the future, in peace and goodneighborliness.

With increasing frequency our age dictates the necessity of resolving problems by means of cooperation. This concerns the guaranteeing of peace, disarmament and arms control, environmental protection, and the struggle against hunger and poverty in the world. By signing the concluding document in Helsinki we laid the foundations for all-embracing cooperation, bypassing the borders of social systems. This requires frankness [otkrovennost] and confidence, openness [otkrytost] and publicity [glasnost].

Richard von Weizsaecker proclaimed a toast to the peaceful and happy future of the citizens of Leningrad, and to the further development of the friendly cooperation between the FRG and the USSR.

On the same day, the Federal president of the FRG flew to Moscow. Leaving with him was Hans-Dietrich Genscher, deputy Federal chancellor and FRG minister of foreign affairs.

DPA Reports Trip

ID091655 Hamburg DPA in German 1426 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Leningrad/Moscow, 9 Jul (DPA) -- During a visit to Leningrad today, Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker expressed "respect and sorrow" for the hundreds of thousands of nameless victims who lost their lives during the siege of the city by German troops in World War II. At a dinner given by the gorispolkom he stressed, however: "The memory gives us the strength for a future of peace and goodneighborliness."

While the Federal president was visiting memorials and places of culture in Leningrad, the Soviet Union once again welcomed the Federal president's statement that relations between the two countries are based on the Moscow Treaty. However, USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Boris Pyadyshev said that where there is still talk of an allegedly open German question, this causes doubts as to whether the Federal Government really supports the Moscow Treaty. But on the whole the Soviet Union has assessed the visit positively. [passage omitted]

Two interviews given by important Soviet spokesmen reflect cautious optimism, but with clearly critical undertones. The head of the semi-official Soviet news agency, Valentin Falin [Board Chairman of NOVOSTI], said in Friday's KOELNISCHE/BONNER RUNDSCHAU that according to his information, the Soviet partners in the talks assessed the results of meetings with Weizsaecker "very positively." However, there were still grounds for complaining about the inconsistent policy of the Federal Government.

Falin said: "When both countries acknowledge the renunciation of force in the Moscow Treaty, then the results should be more tangible in policy than has hitherto been the case." The readiness to create a system of effective security in Europe and to eliminate the possibility of a nuclear war must not just be proclaimed by the Federal Government but also be practiced. So far one has waited in vain for this.

In contrast to Genscher, Falin was also restrained in expressing himself on the possiblity of a meeting between the Federal chancellor and Gorbachev: "We must first wait and see if the correct conditions for such a talk are present."

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh was equally cautious, saying to Friday's edition of BILD newspaper: "The possibilities for talks with the Federal Government have now improved." An obstacle to disarmament however, remains the problem of the Pershing-1A missiles which are in the possession of the Bundeswehr, but whose nuclear warheads are controlled by the United States. Gremitskikh urged the Federal Republic "once again to seriously review its standpoint and to adopt a constructive posture." "The Americans must include the 72 Pershing-1As in the negotiations. There is no other way!"

Returns to Moscow

LD092212 Moscow Television Servcice in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast:]

[Text] FRG Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker, who is on an official visit to our country at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today visited Leningrad.

Late in the evening he left for Moscow.

Departs for Novosibirsk

LD100856 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Today, FRG Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker left Moscow for Novosibirsk. He is in our country on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Von Weizsaeker and his wife were seen off at the steps of the aircraft at Vnukovo Airport by Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his wife; Comrade Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

The state flags of FRG and the Soviet Union were raised at the airport and banners of greetings were displayed. An honor guard comprising representatives of the three USSR Armed Services -- Ground Forces, Air Force, and Navy -- was formed at the runway. The orchestra played the state anthems of the two countries. Comrade Gromyko and Von Weizseacker inspected the formation of Soviet troops. The farewell festive ceremony was concluded by the march-past of the honor guard. The state flags of the FRG and the Soviet Union were displayed in the streets and the squares of the capital, along which the motorcade accompanied by a motorcycle escort proceeded to the airport.

The guest is being accompanied on his trip around the country by Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and by other officials.

Shevardnadze Sees Off Genscher

LD100455 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0441 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 10 July (TASS) -- Hans-Dietrich Genscher, deputy Federal chancellor and minister of foreign affairs of the FRG, who had accompanied FRG Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker during his official visit to the Soviet Union, left Moscow for the FRG today.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher was seen off at the airport by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

Andreas Meyer-Landrut, FRG ambassador to the USSR, was among those seeing him off.

Media Treatment of Visit Viewed

LD092041 Moscow TASS in English 2004 GMT 9 Jul 87

["When the Chief Thing is Replaced by a Minor One" -- TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS -- TASS commentator Vladimir Burakov writes:

The visit to the Soviet Union by President Richard von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) is going on. Pronouncements by state leaders from the Soviet Union and the FRG are keynoted by the idea of mutual interest in improving relations between our two countries.

The FRG's Federal president stated in Moscow that the aim of the current state visit to the Soviet Union was to open a new chapter in relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic and to put the relations on a wide long-term basis.

"This aim", he said further, "has been achieved".

However, one gathers the impression that such tonality of the visit is not to the liking of everyone in the Federal Republic. A desire to replace the main issues by those of minor importance is manifest.

This is evidenced by an increased interest being shown in some press media of the FRG these days not in the topical issues, which the state of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG and the destiny of the 'common European home' depend upon, but in particular, in questions of minor importance, such as, for example, what number of lines the Soviet press devoted to a summary of the West German guest's speech made at the dinner in the Kremlin on July 6.

Even if it was deemed necessary in the FRG to fan up the discussion on this score, the following question is legitimate: How does the West German press publish the texts of speeches made by visiting guests? From A to Z?

This question was put to the West German representatives at a press conference in Moscow. To give an answer to it Richard von Weizsaecker had to confer with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the FRG's minister of foreign affairs. After a minute of confusion, there followed an answer in the affirmative which, it is true, evoked smiles among those present.

And there is an answer given to an inquiry made by a TASS correspondent in Bonn to the Federal Department for the Press and Information of the Government of the FRG: The texts of speeches by visiting guests are not published either in the press bulletin of the Bundestag or in the press bulletin of the government.

Incidentally, if one begins to count lines, the West German semi-official "DIE WELT" considered it possible to devote only 120 lines to a summary of the Federal president's speech and a 'whole' 14 lines to the speech made at the same dinner by Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The newspaper GENERAL ANZEIGER, close to the FRG's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, devoted nine lines to Andrey Gromyko's speech.

Full text of the speech made by the FRG's Federal president was published only by the FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU.

It would seem that Moscow, and not Bonn, should have been bewildered as to such disproportion.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON RYZHKOV VISIT TO AUSTRIA

Lays Wreaths to War Heroes

LD081513 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1347 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Vienna, 8 Jul (TASS) -- TASS special correspondents Anatoliy Tyupayev and Vitaliy Chukseyev report:

Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who arrived here on an official friendly visit today has visited Shchwartzenbergplatz Square where a monument is a reminder of the immortal feat of Soviet servicemen who in the spring of 1945 brought freedom to the Austrian people. At that time more than 11,000 Soviet soldiers and officers died in the fighting for Vienna.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers laid a wreath at the foot of the monument with the inscription: "Eternal glory to the Soviet servicemen who died for the liberation of Austria from fascism."

A wreath was also laid by the tomb in memory of Austrian citizens who fell in the struggle for the freedom of their country. An honor guard was formed during the wreath-laying ceremony.

The head of the Soviet Government then visited the Vienna town hall where he met with Hans Meyer, the deputy mayor of Vienna. Welcoming the Soviet guest, H. Meyer noted the high level and scope of friendly relations between the Austrian Republic and the USSR. The capitals of the two states -- Vienna and Moscow -- make a large contribution to the relations, he stressed. Contacts and ties between them have been expressed at various levels for many years.

In his reply, Nikolay Ryzhkov thanked the city authorities for the friendly meeting and kind words and conveyed a cordial greeting from Muscovites to the inhabitants of Vienna. He noted the weighty contribution which the two capitals bring to the cause of strengthening of cooperation and mutual understanding between the Soviet and Austrian peoples.

Nikolay Ryzhkov signed the "Golden Book" of guests of honor.

Vranitzky Dinner Speech

LD090112 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2030 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Vienna, 8 Jul (TASS) -- Since the moment it acquired its full sovereignty 32 years ago Austria has been conducting an active foreign policy, which serves to defend the interests of Austria in the international scene, just as it should also benefit the community of peoples, Franz Vranitzky, federal chancellor of Austria stated. He spoke today at a dinner given in honor of Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is in Austria on an official visit at the invitation of the federal chancellor and the Government of the Austrian Republic.

"Versatile cooperation between Austria and the Soviet Union," Franz Vranitzky went on to say, "has been continuously following an upward trend for more than 30 years on a solid foundation of a closely knit system of bilateral treaties."

"Economic, scientific, and technical relations between our two countries, the relations which at the beginning of the seventies served as an example to many Western countries, are notable for a partnership full of a high degree of trust."

"The general uptrend, which has been observed in the USSR for approximately the past 2 years, creates a favorable climate not only for our economic cooperation but also for cultural and scientific exchanges."

"Austria regards with great sympathy and postive interest the reorganization of Soviet society announced by the new Soviet leadership headed by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev."

"Austria also sets great hopes on the East-West dialogue on disarmament, a dialogue that has entered a decisive phase. The numerous initiatives proposed by the Soviet Union recently in the field of disarmament have had a positive effect on various disarmament talks."

"The state of the talks makes it possible to express hope that agreement on the removal of longer-range nuclear missiles from Europe, and mutual understanding on the issue of eliminating shorter-range nuclear missiles would be reached as early as this year. It is understandable that the Austrian people are particularly interested in the removal of nuclear weapons stationed in direct proximity to our country."

"As far as cutbacks in conventional arms are concerned, Austria makes efforts to be a hospitable host of the Vienna talks at which this subject has been under discussion for more than a decade now -- unfortunately, without success."

"Austria holds that in the field of reductions in conventional arms, neutral and nonaliganed European countries should also play their role. Talks on reducing conventional arms will acquire considerably more weight in the overall disarmament proess in a measure in which nuclear arsenals will be reduced."

"Consultations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact on the issue of a mandate for talks on reducing conventional armed forces and armaments in Europe have been held in Vienna since February."

Austria expects that the Vienna follow-up meeting of the CSCE will make a decision to issue a mandate for such talks as well as for talks on additional confidence- and security-building measures and that the talks will be included in the overall CSCE negotiating process."

"A mandate for talks on reducing conventional arms in Europe in a final document of the Vienna follow-up meeting of the CSCE -- as well as new substantial accords on economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation and on cooperation in the sphere of humanitarian relations -- would give important impulses to the process of detente between East and West and would meet the hopes of European peoples," Franz Vranitzky said.

Documents Signed

LD091116 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Vienna July 9 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, staying here on an official visit, continued the negotiations with Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky.

Then the sides signed several Soviet-Austrian documents.

Nikolay Ryzhkov was received by Austrian Federal President Kurt Waldheim.

The president gave a dinner in honour of the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers which was attended by Franz Vranitzky.

There was an exchange of speeches at the dinner.

POLITBURO CONSIDERS CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT

LD092010 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] In the CPSU Central Committee Politburo: Ascribing prime significance to the consistent implementation of the 27th CPSU Congress toward full development of the social sector, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, at a session held on 9 July, considered on a supervisory basis the matter of the fulfillment of previously adopted decisions of the party and government concerning the provision of construction materials for the population, and better fulfillment of the need for repair and construction service.

It was noted that work on this most important social-policy task is still being undertaken in an unsatisfactory manner. The targets set are being incompletely fulfilled, and as previously, the acute shortage of many construction materials is obvious. The attention of the managers of central planning and supply bodies, of a number of ministries, and retail organizations has been drawn to the impermissible sluggishness and lack of responsibility in implementing the decisions adopted on these matters.

The Politburo issued a severe warning to those guilty of disrupting the plans for providing the population with construction materials, for the production of garden sheds, for the development of housing repair and construction services, for personal plot buildings, and garages.

Ministries and departments, and local bodies are instructed to raise the individual responsibility of cadres for the rigorous fulfillment of the set targets, to stop acts of indiscipline in the fulfillment of decisions of the party and government. Satisfying the vital needs of the citizens must constantly be at the center of the attention of ministries and departments, of local party and soviet bodies, of people's control and of the mass media.

A decision has been made on the utilization of unoccupied housing and personal plots in a number of rural regions of the country. In this, the sale to citizens permanently resident in cities and city-type settlements of unoccupied housing is permitted, on condition that an agreement is concluded with a kolkhoz of sovkhoz, or other enterprise, for the cultivation of agricultural products, and the sale of surpluses of these from personal plots or other land rented for this purpose.

It is envisaged that the sale of such houses will be undertaken with the agreement of the rural soviets of people's deputies and of the kolkhozes and other enterprises on whose territories they are located. It is intended to implement this according to the petitions of labor collectives of enterprises, of organizations and establishments, or of the executive committees of rayon and city soviets of people's deputies. The requests to purchase such houses from those who participated in the Great Patriotic War, veterans of labor and large families will be met on a priority basis.

Noting the great servcices of Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgiy Konstantinovich Zhukov to the Soviet state and his outstanding contribution to the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War, the Politburo passed a decision that a monument to Zhukov will be erected in Moscow.

The session of the Politburo examined the results of the talks which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Comrades Ryzhkov and Shevardnadze had with Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi, who was in the USSR on an official friendly visit. It was noted with satisfaction that the conversations, which passed in a spirit of openness [otkrytost] and mutual trust, once again revealed the correspondence or closeness of the positions of the two countries on the key problems of international life. The USSR and India confirmed their determination to do all to avert the threat of a nuclear disaster and promote the peaceful settlement of international disputes, as called for in the Delhi Declaration on a world free of nuclear weapons and violence. The ideas enshrined in the declaration have become a factor of realistic politics, and are having a favorable effect upon the moral and political climate in the world.

The Politburo noted that, as a result of the implementation of accords reached earlier, cooperation between the USSR and India is attaining a qualitatively new level. It confirmed the intention to continue to pursue unswervingly the line toward all-round development of Soviet-Indian relations on the basis of the principles of independence, equality of rights, noninterference in internal affairs and mutual benefit.

The further rapprochement of our peoples will be promoted by holding the Indian Festival in the USSR and holding a Soviet Festival in India, devoted to two highly important historic events: The 40th anniversary of India's independence, and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo also examined certain questions of party construction, as well as the foreign-political activity of the Communist Party and of the Soviet state directed toward strengthening peace and providing for international security.

IZVESTIYA CARRIES SUPREME SOVIET SESSION SPEECHES

Anfimov on Economic Management

PM091237 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Abbreviated version of speech delivered by Deputy O.G. Anfimov of Nurekskiy Electoral Okrug, Tajik SSR, (USSR minister of electrical equipment industry) at 29 June afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities under general heading: "Debate on the Question of Restructuring National Economic Management at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Deputies! There is no great need today to talk of the importance of the documents under discussion, for no one doubts this. I will only say they also have a direct relevance to us in the electrical equipment industry.

The weighty and important tasks of the 12th 5-Year Plan cannot be resolved by old methods. For during the present 5-year plan we must increase labor productivity by almost 50 percent and profits by 150 percent and ensure that 97 percent of the output of the most important types of electrical equipment industry products matches up to world standards.

Taking into consideration the experience of work in conditions of the economic experiment, and also the experience of the work of enterprises in other sectors in conditions of complete economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing, the ministry, together with scientists, has prepared proposals for restructuring the existing economic mechanism and transferring the sector to an integral system of economic management and administration.

Our proposals envisage switching enterprises to economically accountable revenue, introducing payment for labor resources, and assessing labor productivity on the basis of net output sold. The economically accountable revenue is the remainder of the proceeds from the output and services sold after deducting all expenses and making payments to the budget. Thus the preconditions are being established for creating a cost-cutting economic management mechanism.

The question of a fundamentally new approach to forming the wages fund as a proportion of economically accountable revenue has been raised. The more economically the economy is run, the larger becomes the proportion left with the enterprise for wages and material incentives.

With a view to mobility in assimilating items of new equipment and removing obsolete designs it is proposed to form a sectorial fund to regulate prices using some of the discounts and markups on wholesale prices. This fund can be used to provide advantageous conditions for the production of new products in great demand in the national economy.

We think it expedient to give enterprises the right to mark up wholesale prices of output that has to be additionally included in the plan or whose delivery schedules have to be brought forward in comparison with those laid down in the contract. In this sphere the ministry proposes fundamentally new approaches which ensure the activity of the science and production association as a single national economic complex and give it incentives to resolve the main task -- satisfying society's requirements for qualitatively new types of output.

The new planning principles also presuppose switching nearly half the electrical equipment industry product list to direct planning and distribution to enterprises on the basis of direct links and long-term contracts.

The possibility granted to enterprises of working directly with the customer will increase the role of consumers in forming production programs and will help bring demand into line with supply. It will be possible to correctly determine the detailed product list and completion [ispolneniye] of articles. This form of relationship between the producer and the consumer will be the basis for switching to wholesale trade in industrial goods. With the aim of accumulating experience in the distribution and sale of output it has been proposed to transfer to two subsectors -- cable production and light sources -- functions in marketing their output.

The renewal of the economic mechanism at the present stage is impossible without changing the functions of the ministry's apparatus and the established forms and methods of leadership. Within the ministry's structure it is proposed to abolish the existing main production administrations and create state production complexes. We think that this management mechanism could be tried in the 12th 5-Year Plan and, taking into account possible changes, could be made the basis for subsequent years.

Great tasks in increasing consumer goods production and providing paid services to the population are being set, including for the electrical equipment industry. Here the local soviets of people's deputies have a great role. It would be advisable to give the ispolkoms of rayon, city, and oblast soviets the right to organize and plan paid services to the population.

From our viewpoint, it is necessary to permit the sale to the population of certain types of electrical equipment industry output, electrical machines, cables, magnetic starters, light fittings, and many other things. Demand for them is increasing as the network of cooperatives develops. We could organize the delivery of complete sets of electrical equipment for the electrification, for example, of garden plots.

As far as the draft law on State Enterprise is concerned, I will say that the sector's working people have participated with great interest in discussing it and have made their own proposals. We propose that it be approved. (applause)

Khayeyev on 'Radical' Changes

PM091307 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Abbreviated version of speech delivered by Deputy I. Khayeyev of Voseyskiy Electoral Okrug, Tajik SSR, (chairman of the Tajik SSR Council of Ministers) at 29 June afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities under general heading "Debate on the Question of Restructuring National Economic Management at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development"]

[Text] Respected comrade deputies! The intensive factors brought into operation in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress are having a positive effect on the socioeconomic development of our republic. Nonetheless, the changes are still insignificant. The assimilation of deep-seated reserves is progressing very slowly. As before, unsatisfactory use is being made of the agro-industrial complex' natural and economic potential and local opportunities for expanding production and raising the quality of foodstuffs and improving their supply to the population, as is noted in the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolutions adopted in our republic.

The CPSU Central Committee June Plenum clearly set out the priorities of restructuring and mapped out rates, deadlines, and the aims and tasks of each stage. The soundness of any building depends on the soundness of the foundations, and so it is true that radical transformations of the economic mechanism have begun, as was stressed at the plenum, with the basic link of the economy -- enterprises and associations. And -- and this is of extreme importance -- it is planned to make them really economically accountable [khozraschetnyy] and to free them from trivial regulations and outmoded, often far-fetched instructions. Undoubtedly, this will also become the basic link in the chain of highly essential measures to radically improve territorial planning and achieve the optimum combination of the territorial and sector approaches toward ensuring the comprehensive development of regions in the interests of the state as a whole on the basis of economic methods including economic accountability and self-financing.

The very mechanism for shaping the plan and the entire structure of the plan's indicators still has a clearly expressed sectorial character, and local organs of power -- not only ispolkoms but even union republic councils of ministers -- do not have sufficiently strong economic and organizational levers in all spheres of their activity for implementing the functions allotted to them in ensuring the comprehensive interlinked development of the economy and the sociocultural sphere.

Recently a resolute course has been set aimed at developing the social sphere, and stringent demands are quite justifiably being made on questions of fulfilling the plans for building projects in this field.

But the capital investments in them continue to be fragmented, and the cumbersome mechanism of getting this agreed on and coordinated still has a powerful effect. To eliminate this, we consider it essential to change the system which has taken steps and allocate capital investment quotas for social construction directly to the republic's council of ministers in line with the corresponding normatives.

There is a need for reorganization of the system of management and for a scientifically substantiated approach to all the problems of the socioeconomic development of each region. In the all-union division of labour our economy was raw-material oriented, which held back not only the development of production forces and the growth of the poplation's living standards but also the rational use of labor resources.

In the course of the restructuring of the economic mechanism it is necessary, in our view, to improve the method of calculating many indicators, the balance of labor resources, national income, production and consumption of foodstuffs, and per capita paid services taking account of family structure, which differs sharply from region to region in the country. This will make it possible to intensify the social thrust and substantiation of plan decisions in conditions of the transfer of the union republics to self-financing and self-sufficiency.

While on the subject of self-sufficiency, we accept M.S. Gorbachev's criticism in his report at the plenum on the subject of the shipping in of confectionery. By the end of the 5-year plan the republic will have stopped shipping in these goods and also potatoes. The population's requirements wil be completely satisfied through our own production.

But the supply of livestock products still remains a serious problem connected, above all, with demographic factors. By the year 2000, Tajikistan's population will have increased significantly at its present growth rate. Women, many of them with four or more children, account for an overwhelming majority of the republic's currently unemployed able-bodied population. The situation is aggravated by the fact that Tajikistan is mountainous and has insufficient arable land, the amount of arable land per capita is annually decreasing, and the rate of growth of production of food needed to achieve scientifically-based consumption norms is not being ensured despite all the intensification of agriculture. Taking all this into consideration, in addition to creating new jobs we are launching work on the organization of a family planning service.

We understand the scale and difficulty of the tasks, we know that quite a few additional difficulties and contradictions will arise. But guided by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the present session of the USSR Supreme Soviet we will strive energetically to introduce the new system of economic and management. [applause]

Niyazov on Agro-Industry

PM071805 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Abbreviated version of speech delivered by Deputy S.A. Niyazov of Bezmeinskiy Electoral Okrug, Turkmen SSR, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, at 29 June afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities under general heading "Debate on the Question of Restructuring National Economic Management at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development."]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies!

The Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee plenum, party committee plenums, and meetings in party organizations have revealed the sources of stagnant phenomena and given a principled assessment of actions by many leaders guilty of this.

A critical evaluation of the state of affairs has begun to establish itself in the republic and an atmosphere of creative work is now taking shape. Greater demands are now made of Communists and leading workers for the tasks with which they are entrusted. Many sectors of party, state, and economic work are being reinforced with cadres. Measures have been determined to accelerate development in the economic and social spheres.

The improvement in the moral and psychological climate together with organizational and political work have allowed us to make some positive changes in economic and social development. But we are clearly aware that the program to demolish the braking mechanism is still not being effectively implemented and that we still have a great many reserves and unfinished projects. It must be admitted that we have not achieved the necessary depth of transformations. The directions to be taken by the restructuring process have only been mapped out. This process has not completely involved every collective. Not only positive trends are developing in real life; braking factors and the force of inertia are still having an active effect.

Climatic conditions in Turkmenistan's southern regions are ensuring the ripening of the earliest and latest varieties of highly palatable fruit and vegetable crops. A program to develop these sectors to supply produce to the country's industrial centers in early spring and during the autumn-winter period is now being worked out in the republic in conjunction with the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee. It is thought that this proposal will interest the USSR Gosplan and that we will be given the necessary assistance in strengthening the material and technical base of the Turkmen SSR fruit and vegetable economy.

I would like to take the opportunity to discuss a number of other problems important to the republic. As is well known, national income is accepted as one of the main indicators of socialist production efficiency, including for individual regions. Certain shortcomings are peculiar to the method of calculating this indicator. They are the result of an imperfect price formation system and poor consideration for the national economy's sectoral structure. Despite the predominance of agricultural production and Turkmenian specialization in cotton fiber production and natural gas output, turnover tax is mainly calculated outside the republic and is not included in the national income producted in its territory. To determine the republic's real contribution to the national economy, a positive role could be played by the development by the USSR Council of Ministers of a method to calculate generalizing economic indicators pertaining to a region's development depending on its production specialization and structure.

One of the most important social and economic problems for us is to enhance the effectiveness of utilizing the rapidly growing labor resources. The Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's government are taking measures to increase the population's employment. Only by increasing the shift index and organizing extra work places will more than another 278,000 people be involved in social production in the current 5-year period. A program is being implemented in conjunction with the Amur Obkom to resettle 1,400 families -- mainly indigenous Turkmenians -- from Turkmenistan and assign them to economic units in Amur Oblast and form two sovkhozes.

To resolve the problem of finding work for the unemployed population, we believe it would be expedient to set union ministries state targets regarding the creation of new work places for regions such as the Turkmen SSR which have surplus manpower. This will make it possible to employ freed labor resources on commissioned projects.

In the Turkmen SSR's conditions, one of the ways to accelerate economic and social development is to further industrialize the national economy and improve the structure of this industrialization, taking the existence of national wealth into account and bringing about this industrialization to a considerable extent through new construction. However, the decision to build and reconstruct more than 100 industrial enterprises is being unsatisfactorily implemented. The fulfillment of this program is also being counteracted by the currently employed basic sector criterion of efficiency: setting up enterprises for the minimum calculated outlay. It gives union ministries and departments no incentive to set up enterprises in poorly developed economic regions.

In our opinion, it would be expedient for the USSR Gosplan and the USSR Gosstroy to evolve a system of economic levers to stimulate the formation of industrial enterprises in these regions.

Comrades! We regard the restructuring of economic management and the economic mechanism as a partywide, nationwide task. All of the republic's Communists and working people will do everything to unconditionally carry through this process. (applause).

Yeremey on 'Encouraging' Provisions

PM091321 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Abbreviated version of speech delivered by Deputy G.I. Yeremey of Chadyr-Lungskiy Electoral Okrug, Moldavian SSR, (chairman of the Moldavian Trade Union Council) at 29 June afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities under general heading: "Debate on the Question of Restructuring National Economic Management at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Deputies!

Planning today must be more scientifically substantiated than ever. It is well known that in Moldavia, as a result of the tenacity of voluntarism in planning, gigantomania, disregard of the opinion of collegial leadership organs, and sometimes even blind obedience, the main efforts from one 5-year plan to the next have been concentrated on new industrial construction, which is often carried out regardless of other republic's specific features, position, and role in the all-union division of labor. This has led to a situation where per capita nonproduction capital is 1.5 times less than the average in the country.

We are aware of our responsibility for this state of affairs. But at the same time central organs must also be taken more seriously to task. The USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR Gosplan must resist narrow departmental approaches toward the siting of sectorial production units and prevent errors in the planning of the comprehensive development of each union republic's production and social spheres.

Today we clearly need new approaches toward implementing territorial management of the development of enterprises under union jurisdiction, regardless of which department they come under, to demolish departmental barriers and replace them with truly statewide interests. In this regard, it is necessary to supplement paragraph 2 of the draft law's Article 10 so that it points out that enterprises elaborate the prospects of their development not only on the basis of the sector's long-term tasks but also with a view to the territory's comprehensive development.

To fulfill the set task -- switching to complete economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing in 1988-1989 -- it is necessary to significantly enhance production efficency and the return on labor, which are directly dependent on enterprises' technical standards. According to preliminary estimates, even during the 13th 5-Year Plan the republic's light industry will be producing output using equipment that has been in service for 20 years and more. This equipment is not only obsolete but also worn out and cannot guarantee high output quality. The situation is equally bad in other sectors of industry, construction, and the agro-industrial complex.

The slow equipment of production with modern technology exacerbates still further one of the most acute social problems -- the reduction of manual labor. The number of workers engaged in manual labor in the republic in 1986 was one in three in industry, more than one-half in construction, and more than 70 percent in agriculture, trade, and consumer services.

The improvement of the economic mechanism and of planning demands a significant enhancement of the standard of management of social processes in society, and primarily in labor collectives. Social normatives taking the specific features of each territory into account must be widely introduced into planning practice at all levels.

The following question naturally arises: Are labor collectives sufficiently prepared for work under the new conditions of economic management? Not only at team level but also at enterprise leader level by no means everyone is clearly aware of how the management mechanism and the principles of complete economic accountability and self-financing are to operate. The problems of price formation and the norm-setting and remuneration of labor are not altogether clear. Economic studies are called upon to largely fill this gap. Mandatory basic economic studies must be organized everywhere.

The basic provisions for the radical restructuring of economic management elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the documents to be adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet session encourage everyone to work more fruitfully and to make more efficient use of the production, scientific, and technical potential, and create real preconditions for attaining the party's profoundly humanitarian goal -- the qualitative transformation of the entire life of our country, motherland of the Great October. (applause)

Yermin on Problems, Solutions

PM030935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Abbreviated version of speech delivered by Deputy L.B. Yermin of Nizhnelomovskiy Electoral Okrug, Penza Oblast, (member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee) at 29 June afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union under general heading "Debate on the Question of Restructuring National Economic Management at the Present Stage of the Country's Economic Development"]

[Text] Comrade deputies! A question of great political importance has been submitted for discussion by the USSR Supreme Soviet session -- the restructuring of national economic management, which affects the fundamental interests of each labor collective and, therefore, of the whole of society.

The process of restructuring has had a profound effect on the republic's agro-industrial complex, where this work started somewhat earlier than in other sectors. The RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom] is now a major national economic complex employing a total of 15 million persons and with fixed production assets worth more than R200 billion.

The Gosagroprom has started relying more and more on economic methods in its practical work. Transition to the resource-normative method of planning, internal farm accounting, and collective contracts using the checkbook method of expenditure monitoring, is being implemented everywhere. Increasing persistence is displayed in introducing scientifically substantiated crop farming and stock raising systems, intensive technologies, high-yield varieties and crops, and a cost-cutting mechanism of economic management.

Major agro-industrial combines and state-cooperative and science and production associations are now being set up in the republic as part of the quest for new and improved forms of integration and management of links at rayon and primary level. Thus, in Krasnodar Kray, "Kuban," the first agro-industrial combine, which has incorporated all the kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and processing and service enterprises in Timashevskiy Rayon, is operating in on the basis of complete economic accountability [khozraschet], self-capitalization, and self-financing. Taking this positive experience into account, the republic has already set up 22 similar combines, which are operational.

But we view what has been done at the first stage of restructuring only as the start of the extensive work which still must be done. A whole series of shortcomings and unsolved problems have come to light. Questions of integration between agriculture and the processing industry and service organizations are still being solved only slowly in the republic.

The interests of the cause also demand a solution to the pressing problem of prices. In this work we must proceed from the principled stipulations of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum to the effect that a radical reform of price formation is the paramount and most important component of the restructuring of economic management. This is particularly important for the economy's agrarian sector, in which the purchase prices for some agricultural producers still fail to correspond to the socially necessary labor expenditures and production costs and fail to create conditions for profitable work.

It is evident that, when solving the problem of improving purchase prices, we must also take into account changes in the level of wholesale prices for the means of production supplied to agriculture by industry. We must speak of this because the present growth in prices for equipment is far from commensurate with the increase in labor productivity. The majority of new and modernized machines, as a rule, increase labor productivity by 20-30 percent, while their cost is 50-100 percent higher than that of previous similar models. Even the quality of the equipment produced leaves much to be desire.

Those who actually use the equipment esentially have no influence at all on the formulation of plans for the production and deliveries of equipment by enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production and the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. The annual roundup of orders placed for machinery and equipment is nothing but a meaningless formality.

The draft Law on State Enterprise, which our session is due to pass, makes a very important provision regarding the further enhancement of local soviets' role in the solution of tasks concerning the comprehensive development of their territories. But some kind of relations of economic accountability must be established between soviets and enterprises to implement this provision.

The point is that at present these relations are not equal. Quite often the authority of state power is directly dependent on economic managers. Essentially, soviets supply ministries and their enterprises with land, water, and labor resources free of charge and render assistance in other matters, while they themselves remain on "starvation rations" without receiving any share of the profits. Moreover, sectors and enterprises bear vitually no responsibility for any damage to the land, pollution of the environment, or irrational utilization of labor resources. Quite often expenditure on the social infrastructure is also reduced.

It is perfectly obvious that such an attitude toward nature and the territory's comprehensive development is impermissible. The report is perfectly correct in proposing that local soviets' budgets be drawn up in a new fashion to ensure that all enterprises, regardless of their departmental subordination, make payments to soviets in respect of the land, water, and other natural resources they use, as well as a certain proportion of their profits. The solution of these and other problems will make it possible to introduce an integrated system of economic management at the present stage of intensification and acceleration. [applause]

OFFICIAL ARRESTED FOR CHERNOBYL, DRA-RELATED BRIBES

LD061752 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1600 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] A big military scandal been uncovered in the Soviet Union. The highest military officer in Estonia, War Commissar Roomet Kiudmaa, has been arrested on suspicion of taking bribes from conscripts who wanted to buy their way out of unpleasant service at Chernobyl or in Afghanistan. Details of the first big bribery case within the highest military leadership in the Soviet Union are confirmed by [Karl Kimmel] the [Estonian] state procurator in Tallinn:

[Begin recording] [Kimmel, in Estonian] Yes, yes, I do not know. A preliminary investigation is in progress on this subject.

[First Reporter, in Estonian] Yes, and what is the charge against him?

[Kimmel] It is too early to say; he has not been presented with a charge.

[Second reporter, in Swedish] Karl Kimmel, the Estonian state procurator, has confirmed here in a telephone conversation with "Eko" [name of this radio program] that the highest military officer in Estonia, War Commissar Roomet Kiudmaa, has been arrested. However, the state procurator refuses, in view of the preliminary investigation going on, to disclose what Kiudmaa is charged with. According to rumors circulating in recent weeks with ever greater intensity in the Estonian capital of Tallinn, War Commissar Kiudmaa has been taking bribes. Conscripts due to be placed in Afghanistan have been able to buy their freedom for 1,000 roubles; for 500 roubles they could get out of Chernobyl. Since the bribery scandal concerns a high-ranking military officer, the matter is being treated with the greatest secrecy. Since "Eko" has had confirmation from the state procurator in Tallinn that Roomet Kiudmaa has been arrested, the possibility of further conversations has been removed.

Roomet Kiudmaa, who is of Estonian nationality, has been war commissar since 1975. He has the rank of major-general, and in addition to a long military training, he has taught at the military academy in Moscow. This is the first time that bribery and corruption have been revealed within the higher military leadership of the Soviet Union — and now it has been confirmed. According to the Soviet penal code, paragraph 164, bribery can receive the death sentence. Especially aggravating circumstances exist when the recipient of bribes is in a so-called position of responsibility. According to unofficial and unconfirmed sources, Roomet Kiudmaa has already been sentenced and executed. There are also reports that the Estonian minister of the interior, Marko Tibar, a major-general as well, has been forced to resign and leave the Communist Party. The reason is that, as minister of the interior, he was informed of the bribery by the war commissar, but did not intervene. That Minister of the Interior Tibar has resigned or been arrested is denied by State procurator Karl Kimmel in his conversation with "EKO." According to Karl Kimmel, he is now on holidary. [end recording]

LIGACHEV CALLS FOR JOURNALISTS' OPENNESS

PM081039 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 7 Jul 87 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Enlarge the Framework of Activity and Embrace All Areas of Cultural Building. Restructuring in the Cultural Sphere and SOVETSKAYA KULTURA's Place in This Work"]

[Excerpts] The SOVETSKAYA KULTURA editorial office was visited 1 and 3 July by Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He met with the editorial collective and visited the departments where detailed conversations were held with journalists about the paper's aims and tasks arising from the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums. There was a discussion of restructuring in the cultural sphere and SOVETSKYA KULTURA's place in that work. [passage omitted]

Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed a conference of editorial staff. He expressed satisfaction with the businesslike conversations in the editorial departments and the frank exchange of opinions with journalists. It was noted in the speech that the report by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, the speeches, and the documents adopted at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum summed up the work of the party and society since the Central Committee April Plenum and 27 CPSU Congress, determined tasks of the present stage of restructuring, and established the need for and revealed the essence of the cardinal reform of the country's economic management. Henceforth the profound restructuring will embrace both the base and the superstructure. The democratization of society is closely bound up with economic transformations, which is the foundation of the success of the acceleration strategy.

The plenum noted that our mass news and propaganda media have begun operating more vigorously, in the interests of restructuring. We have grounds for applying this assessment to SOVETSKAYA KULTURA as well, to its collective, leadership, and party organization, to the writers, and to all who make the paper. Since the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and 27th party congress the paper has discussed a wider range of problems and it has become sharper and more interesting. The paper's editorial board is actively promoting the development of democratization among the artistic intelligentsia, openness, candor, debate, and wide-ranging exchange of opinions. As a result the number of reasders' letters has doubled and the print run has increased by 22 percent. Although you still must increase the total print run.

I would like to draw your attention to the following questions. First of all, the preparation for the 70th anniversary of Great October. The CPSU Central Committee documents on this event direct the mass news and propaganda media to extensively demonstrate the achievements and lessons of Soviet power and implement the policy of acceleration and socialist renewal. We have something to be proud of, we have something to show. As M.S. Gorbachev noted, each year of our history is equally dear to us. As for the development of culture, education, science, and other social aspects, in these areas our country has covered truly unique ground -- from a savage patriarchal system to a country that reads more than any other, a country whose people are exploring space.

lt is necessary to more fully and more vividly reveal the implementation of the cultural revolution in the USSR and show the history of the development of Soviet multinational socialist culture and art. Of course, these questions should be covered comprehensively and objectively and the ground we have covered should be shown in terms of the struggles, the contradictions, the agonizing quest for the new, that is, as it really was. The comprehensive interpretation of the past helps one to confidently move forward. The publication of documents on historical topics arouses great interest. For example, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA does this skillfully.

The paper is faced with crucial new tasks in connection with the guidelines of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum. In the course of revolutionary restructuring a new type of person is taking shape -- one who is active, vigorously creative, highly moral, intolerant of anything alien to us, and a real patriot. Socialist culture has a great role to play here. The paper should continue to focus attention on this problem. The editorial board should also deal with questions of restructuring the management of culture at local level and in the center and the transfer of enterprises and organizations associated with material production to complete economic accountability and self-financing.

Ye.K. Ligachev noted that SOVETSKAYA KULTURA must get closer to the restructuring processes in cultural bodies and institutions and in creative unions. [paragraph continues]

Attention must be focused on the theme of party and state leadership of culture with the direct involvement of official [polnomochnyy] creative organizations. It is necessary to set about analyzing the work of culture ministries, committees for book publishing and cinematography, local party and soviet bodies, central and local unions of theater workers, cinematographers, artists, composers, and writers, and also of the republican and oblast branches of such public organizations as the Music Society, the Culture Foundation, and the Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments. We want to see in them militant, vigorous initiative.

Questions pertaining to the management of the cultural sphere and overcoming of bureaucracy and organizational sluggishness must be given appropriate coverage on the pages of the newspaper.

Then Ye.K. Ligachev dwelt on questions of the ideological content, party spirit, and realistic nature of our art and all artistic creation. It is not a question, of course, of just proclaiming political slogans on stage and in works of literature an art. It is a question of content, thrust, and skill, it is a question of the essence of creativity.

As is well known, the innovations being introduced in the organization of the country's artistic life on the party's initiative are aimed, on the one hand, at developing initiative, at a creative quest, and at substantially expanding the rights and independence of creative organizations, collectives, and artistic and editorial councils and collegiums; and on the other hand at enhancing their responsibility for the ideological and artistic standard and merit of the works created.

This year I had the opportunity of meeting with the Saratov city artistic intelligentsia. In the course of our discussion it was noted that at present speeches and statements are encountered that claim that in conditions of restructuring in the creative sphere the creed of artistic merit and creative originality is of paramount importance. Indeed, it is necessary to raise the artistic standard of creative work in every way and to bar the road to primitivism, of which, alas, there is still more than enough. But that is only one aspect, albeit, I repeat, an important one, of creation. There is another aspect, namely ideological content. Ultimately, the genuine value of a work of art is ensured by the combination of profound party ideological commitment and artistic merit. They form a single, inseparable whole.

Unfortunately, there have been quite a few examples which indicate a departure from this principle. For instance, a documentary has been made in Leningrad about the "Pop-mekhanika" group. What an ideological and artistic jumble!

On the whole the process of democratization, openness, criticism, and self-criticism is proceeding in the right direction. But as was to be expected, the waves of restructuring and renewal have also washed up some scum and debris. "Energetic" people who sometimes try to supplant our spiritual values with their own dubious ideas and intentions have emerged. V.G. Rasputin recently paid me a visit. In the course of our conversation he expressed concern at the fact that the aggressiveness of so-called mass culture and the flood of shallow musical compositions are rising. The same opinion was also expressed during a meeting by Ye. F. Svetlanov.

Recently at the USSR Writers Union plenum, and before that at the session of the Secretariat of the RSFSR Writers Union Board, prominent Soviet litterateurs expressed concern at certain negative phenomena.

It was noted that in certain works the word "communist" is nowhere to be found and that literary criticism shuns, and sometimes is even embarrassed, by the very concept of socialist realism and the positive hero (positive rather than sterile hero), as if all these things were out of fashion now.

The following point must be understood here. The party has deliberately embarked on the democratization of the sphere of artisitic creatvity, just like of all other walks of our life. Democratization is a most important lever of restructuring and of progress. However, no matter what models and innovations are suggested to us (by both "innovators" in our country and foreign advisers), we will not depart from the principles of the class and realistic nature of art, from the communist thrust of culture and the spiritual sphere, and from the education of people aimed at their all-around development.

In these conditions the press and, of course, the creative unions must occupy a clear ideological position, assert our party and socialist principles of spiritual life, and expose and debunk spiritual aridity and banality and attempts to infiltrate elements of the West's bourgeois mass culture into our life.

At present positive, albeit often also contradictory, processes are taking place in society which affect the economic and social interests of every citizen and every collective. For a long time life has not presented the workers in literature and art with so many problems and clashes, with such varied material about the activization of the individual person. The party badly needs cultural figures who, boldly plunging into present life, create works about the transformations in society, and vividly depict fighters for restructuring and acceleration in literature and art.

It is an urgent task of our press not to allow the names and creations of cultural figures who represent the apex of Russian and our Soviet classical creation and have won the respect of the party and the people to be pushed into the background in the press, on television, in the theater, in the movies, and in music and the visual arts.

A very important question is how the situation in creative unions at the center and at local level is now shaping up. Their congresses were active. The party believes that the further expansion of democratization will be conducive to the fuller revelation of ideological and artistic potential in literature, theater, the movies, music, and the visual arts and to the emergence of new talents. In the debate at the congresses of creative unions the call rang out: Give us more rights. This has been done. Yet sometimes people appear not to know what to do with them. Investigations and explanations are continuing and the main work is neglected in some places, as if it did not exist. Even the leaders of creative organizations themselves are beginning to express concern; USSR People's Artist K.Yu. Lavrov, chairman of the USSR Union of Theater Workers, for instance, in his report to the all-union conference of the union noted that more attention must be focused on creative activity. Just as summer and harvest work follow spring, so the critical interpretation of reality must be followed by daily painstaking work. In particular, all-around backing must be given to the current experiment to improve theater art.

What we need is constructive openness. We must all learn to live and work in conditions of democracy, and this is no slogan, but a real demand of our time. Let us be frank, there are still quite a few workers in party and soviet apparatuses and cultural organs who have still not mastered this. As for members of the creative unions, some of them still lack culture in polemics, tact, and a respectful attitude to the opinions of others. Openness also requires intelligence.

Sometimes these important qualities are also lacking in journalists. In the work of your newspaper, and unfortunately not just your newspaper but other newspapers too, there are quite a few instances where problems are covered one-sidedly, with bias, and without in-depth analysis. The attitude toward historical and cultural momuments is a case in point. There has been much critcism in the press -- and quite rightly so -- of a careless attitude to monuments and their destruction. The CPSU Central Committee and the government have supported this criticism and measures are being adopted which will make it possible to rectify this situation. The volume of restoration work is being increased. The state is spending considerable sums of money every year on the preservation and restoration of monuments. Over the past 10 years alone, R1.2 billion has been spent for this purpose. Many outstanding monuments of the past in Moscow, Moscow Oblast, Leningrad, Kiev, Novgorod, Kostroma, Smolensk, Tallinn, Tbilisi, Central Asia, and other places have been renovated. Restoration work is now being organized with a view to increasing its volume: Last year it already totaled R190 million and in 5 years' time it is planned to spend R300 millin annually for this purpose, How can this have gone unnoticed?

Attention was drawn in the speech to the phenomenon of group interests in the creative sphere. It was pointed out at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum that under the guise of the struggle against the ambitions of one group, the ambitions, predilections, bias, and subjective viewpoints of another group are imposed. We run into this in the mass news media, in art, and in literature alike. Factionalism is harming the development of Soviet culture, especially art and literature, and is impeding the establishment of an atmosphere of principledness, justice, respect, and -- last but not least -- genuine, rather than sham, openness and democracy in creative unions. Factionalism undercuts young talent, as was noted with alarm during the Komsomol Congress. Talent is a national asset and it has to be protected. A healthy development of democracy will contribute to the development of creative abilities and talent. Conversely, deviation from genuine democracy and justice will have a detrimental effect on the creative process and will impede it.

It is necessary to tackle the eradication of factionalism more thoroughly and with greater persistence. Instances of dishonorableness and unscrupulousness and attempts unjustifiably to advance some people and suppress others must be exposed. Of course, it must be done publicly, openly, naming names and the creative organizations, institutions, and editorial offices where this occurs.

The title of your newspaper, Ye.K. Ligachev said, expresses quite a broad concept -- Soviet culture. Culture, quite specifically, rather than art. Yet an analysis of the articles published in your newspaper reveals that their content, their subject matter, has become much narrower, especially of late. You give preference to questions pertaining to art. You rarely touch on problems of cultural life in the labor collective and questions of the ideological, aesthetic, and artistic education of its members, despite the fact that the labor collective is the basic unit of our society.

This is wrong. There are thousands of clubs, cultural centers, libraries, theaters, museums, movie theaters, and other cultural and leisure facilities in our country. Millions of Soviet people pass through them daily. What sort of state are these establishments in? What is the content of their work? In what sort of mood do people come away from them? In short, the whole sphere of culture and enlightenment is within the range of your activity and it must by no means be treated as a third-rate topic. It contains much that is interesting and edifying, but also many problems and difficulties, it reflects life itself, and therefore the newspaper also has a role to play here. [paragraph continues]

It is necessary to contribute in every way to improving the standard of spiritual life in remote areas, especially in Siberia, the Far East, and the Far Noth. The propaganda of our spiritual values in eastern parts of the country must be increasingly organized on a planned and long-term basis. The many years of friendship between the Leningrad A.S. Pushkin Academy Drama Theater and the workers of the West Siberian oil and gas complex were cited as an example. It was noted that the press must give more vigorous coverage to the theme "Excellent culture for Siberia and the Far East!"

One of the newspaper's main topics must undoubtedly be the work of party organizations in culture and art in conditions of restructuring and the activity of educational establishments which train specialists in this sphere. In general, it was stressed in the speech, you must deal much more than before with the whole range of questions pertaining to cadres. The CPSU Central Committee demands from party committees in republics, krays, and oblasts that they direct the development of culture skillfully and that they enhance the competence of their officials in this sphere. It is necessary for SOVETSKAYA KULTURA too to keep these questions within its field of vision. However, it has been noted that the newspaper is carrying fewer articles by party and soviet officials. Why? It is true you have become more critical of them. However, your approach must remain democratic and you must give them a chance to have their say. It is important for the newspaper to conduct responsible discussions and provide a platform for the expression of different viewpoints. We have discussed this in the various editorial departments.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary noted that the press must pay more attention to questions of the development of the material base of culture. On the initiative of the CPSU Central Committee a whole series of very important documents aimed at the accelerated development and renewal of the material base of culture and art and the improvement of creative unions' working conditions has been adopted. However, despite the fact that the decisions have been adopted, the leftover approach toward the construction of cultural facilities has not yet been overcome at local level. Last year the plan for the assimilation of capital investments allocated for this purpose was only 75 percent fulfilled. In the current year, the situation remains much the same in a number of republics and oblasts.

Nowadays the technical facilities of culture are especially important. This applies to printing equipment, television equipment, home video recorders, and musical instruments. CPSU Central Committee and government resolutions on this subject have been adopted. The main aim here is to attain world standards. The newspaper could place the implementation of the adopted decisions under public scrutiny.

It was noted that SOVETSKAYA KULTURA must boost its organizational functions, that it would be useful, in particular, to launch a unionwide competition between specific regions, cities, and villages in the construction and reconstruction of cultural facilities and for the newspaper to institute prizes for the winners. In questions pertaining to construction and the provision of technical facilities for culture, the newspaper could join forces with STROITELNAYA GAZETA, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, and other publications. Attention was drawn in the speech to the prominent role played in the development of mass skiing by the newspaper SOVETSKIY SPORT, which has for many years organized a unionwide competition among cities called "Invitation To Ski."

By decision of the CPSU Central Committee the size of SOVETSKAYA KULTURA is to be increased as from next year; special theater and cinema supplements will appear. All the newspaper space must be utilized creatively and to the best possible effect. Among other things it is necessary to improve the coverage of cultural developments in socialist countries.

In short, Ye. K. Ligachev emphasized, you must expand the scope of your activity and cover all sectors of cultural building. SOVETSKAYA KULTURA must truly become a newspaper of the masses.

The conference at the SOVETSKAYA KULTURA editorial office was attended by Ye.V. Zaytsev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department, and V.N. Sevruk, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department.

RSFSR COUNCIL NAMES LOBOV DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

LD021837 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1740 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (TASS) -- The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Oleg Lobov as deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

KIEV DETAILS FORMER CHERNOBYL OFFICIALS' TRIAL

LD081909 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The indictment has been read out at the trial which began on Tuesday in Chernobyl of persons responsible for the accident at the AES in April of last year. It says that the leaders at the station, during the course of a number of years, repeatedly violated instructions. In particular, during the course of conducting tests on the fourth set, rules for the exploitation of the reactor were crudely violated, which led to its explosion.

Immediately after the accident, leaders at the station gave distorted information about the radiation situation and did not take the necessary protective measures. As a result, many of the workers received great [words indistinct]. Thirty men died. More than 100,000 people had to be evacuated from a large zone around the AES. Soviet and foreign journalist are present at the trial in Chernobyl.

VOLYN OBLAST OFFICIALS RELIEVED OF DUTIES

PM061331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Lutsk, 4 Jul -- The plenum of the Volyn Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom which has been held here has examined organizational questions.

The plenum relieved Z. S. Kovalchuk of his duties as obkom first secretary for failing to cope with his duties.

L.I. Pavlenko, formerly secretary of the Kiev Obkom, has been elected first secretary.

In accordance with a resolution of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, V. I. Zhibrov has been relieved of his duties as Volyn Obkom second secretary for serious shortcomings in his work.

A.A. Titarenko, second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work.

PRAGUE TV INTERVIEWS AGANBEGYAN ON RESTRUCTURING

LD071102 Prague Television Service in Czech 2015 GMT 1 Jul 87

[Interview with Academician Abel Aganbegyan, secretary of the Economics Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by unidentified Czech Television correspondent based in Moscow; Aganbegyan speaks in Russian with superimposed Czech translation; date, place not specified; no video available -- recorded]

[Text] [Passage indisctinct] [Aganbegyan in progress] And all this comes from the state budget. Enterprises make a use of this without paying for it. This system, a deformed system, will be eliminated. Enterprises will change for full economic accountability, that is, from their income they will pay for their running costs, investments, reconstruction, and expansion as well as for all of their resources, that includes maintenance, materials, and manpower. The enterprise will have to meet the expenses of the entire production cycle.

A full 13 percent of our enterprises are operating at a loss. This is called planned loss-making. Their deficit is automatically wiped out. When the loss is bigger more is given to wipe it out and the other way around. Nobody mentions that the enterprise should be closed down or reorganized. It used to be considered normal. This will no longer be the case. Now when the state is not responsible for enterprises' accounts, loss-making will be a special case that will require reorganization or a management change. The enterprise will first change its method of financing and then a reorganization might take place. If the ministry is willing it can assist the enterprise with its own funds, but if this is not enough, the enterprise will obviously have to be closed.

Naturally, this is a strange idea but let us consider what a loss-making enterprise is. If an enterprise is losing money, it means each of us must pay to support it. This is parasitism; the enterprise is existing at the expense of the entire society. You can see that the limits are set by economic factors and this is linked with full economic accountability.

At the same time, the state can actively influence the activity of the enterprise and direct it. How will it do that? Through the control figures it processes for enterprises once every 5 years and which act as a guideline for the enterprise, and also by the system of state orders that will include the most important elements [passage indistinct].

[Aganbegyan] I think that the advantages of socialism in the course of restructuring the economy must be developed and consolidated. After all, the highest criterion [passage indistinct] is more socialism. Therefore, we must carry out restructuring not be retreating from socialist principles, the most fundamental ones, but, on the other hand, by strengthening those principles. The point is that we have often understood socialism to mean not the internal laws, but specific (?phenomena) and forms. Some people think that socialism means directives, orders, and regimentation, but that is not socialism. Socialism means ownership by all the people, planned development and no unemployment.

As far as low prices and low rents are concerned, this is a very specific question. Yes, our country has the lowest rents in the world. Rent and payments for communal services amount to only three percent of the outlay of our Soviet families and that includes private housing, which is almost one half.

People who live in state apartments pay even less. These are, I must say, hard-won gains and we resolutely do not want to give them up. There will be no unemployment in our country, because our constitution guarantees the right to work. In view of the fact that in the course of restructuring management we are going over to full economic accountability and self-financing, enterprises will have definite incentive to increase labor productivity and shed some of the workers the enterprise perhaps may not need. However, the state takes upon itself the duty of providing them with work.

It will be necessary to strengthen the work of labor departments and other organs and to ensure the creation of jobs from centralized funds. It will be necessary to transfer manpower from the manufacturing sectors to the service sectors: the health services, education. These are important changes in the overall structure, but under no circumstances must they be allowed to lead to unemployment. The state must see to the retraining of staff and transfer them where they are needed.

We also do not wish to give up having the lowest rents in the world. We will continue to have the lowest rents. Another matter, however, is the existence of rents that are low both for those who occupy living area which we could consider as socially normal -- let's say 20 square meters per person -- and for an excessively large living area. The law on rents has been in existence in our country since 1926 and such low rents are paid that very great differentiations arbitrarily developed. How did this come about? Well, someone moved away from his family, for example, and one person remained alone in a large state apartment. That is what we have to change. We must ask a genuinely low rent for the average living area and the state must subsidize these rents. But for an excessively large living area which is greater than this average, we must genuinely charge as much as it really costs our state.

[Correspondent] Here is something else I wanted to ask you: How do you interpret the importance of market forces in your reform?

[Aganbegyan] The role of market forces, or commodity-monetary relations in changing to new methods of managing our resources -- and in fact the essence of radical restructuring -- is a shift from administrative to predominantly economic methods of management, and with economic methods the role of the market and commodity-monetary relations will, of course, grow sharply. Above all, the consumer market will be better satisfied with goods and services. Prices must genuinely reflect costs.

At present we have great distortions, for example for each kilogram of meat which we well in retail outlest -- and the average price is R1.80 -- the state pays an additional R3 rubles. For each liter of milk we sell, the state pays an additional 30 kopecks. Subsidies on meat and dairy products amount to R48 billion. This is not justified, because these subsidies do not go to children and to the socially weaker groups, but to the socially stronger groups who, of course, buy more meat. So this is not even socially just or economically justified. That is why we want to carry out a reform of retail prices, but in our socialist society we intend to carry it out on a democratic basis. In other words, we will discuss it first with the people, and we will discuss all the pros and cons. Secondly, when we carry it out, we will provide full compensation for increased expenditure by the population per head, to ensure that they can buy the necessary foodstuffs and goods.

What we are talking about, of course, is a balanced market, and the role of the market will increase. We will also include manufacturing capacity in the market system. At present, manufacturing capacity is allotted out of state funds, but now manufacturing capacity will be sold wholesale. It will be possible for enterprises to transfer such capacity through their own horizontal channels and, when necessary, through an intermediary, in other words through the wholesale system. In addition, our enterprises are becoming involved in direct goods exchange with socialist countries -- 700 of them are doing this -- and also with capitalist countries, and at present about 70 enterprises are doing this. They are the most important associations in the Soviet Union which can now trade directly and have their own foreign trade associations.

The market sphere will therefore expand sharply and grow deeper. This market will play a major role but it will be a socialist market. It will not be a free-for-all market. We are not going to sell natural resources or land; we are not going to sell enterprises; we are not going to sell manpower because we will not have unemployment; and there will not be a market dominated by capital in our country. We will not have shares or bills of exchange, so this market will not include the whole of the economy, but only part of it -- the part connected with the sale of goods and paid services. Another feature is that it will be a controlled market. The revenue, the income generated by purchasing power on the market, will be realized by the state because it is the state which sets the norms for remuneration for work, and also for various payments to the population. In addition, the market will be regulated by the fact that the price of the most important products and of means of production will be in the hands of the state. The prices of other goods, many of the goods, will be free and subject to agreement, but the state will monitor them to prevent them from rising excessively.

We are trying to ensure that in our country individual enterprises do not monopolize any part of the market. We will create parallel production of different goods and develop rivalry [souperivost] or, as we call it, economic competitiveness [soutezeni]. We do not use the world competition [konkurence], not because we are afraid of it but because in the consciousness of our people, competition is bound up with inflation, unemployment, and the notion of dog eat dog, and this is unacceptable in a socialist society. That is why we will use the term economic competitiveness. The most important thing is that our market is socialist in its content, because the manufacturers of the goods sold on that market are socialist enterprises, that is to say owned by the people as a whole, and by socialist cooperatives, and by people who work to produce specific goods, including through individual work, and finally there are also the consumers who obtain their money from all these spheres. There are no capitalist forms here to exploit people. So it is a market of a different kind, but the market will be an important element of our planned system, and it is intrinsic to our socialist society; it is one of its objective categories.

[Correspondent] The June plenum was prepared carefully and for a long time. What role was played by specialists, especially economists, in drawing up the reform and, in general, in working out the new strategy of acceleration and development?

[Aganbegyan] Certainly the scientists and the economists took an active part in this process. But they were not alone. Various specialist took part in it. There were many consultations with the directors of enterprises, Gosplan, and other central bodies participated actively in it. We worked hand-in-hand.

Gradually, a certain form of organizing the participation of economic specialists crystallized. The entire work of management restructuring is carried out by the State Commission of Management, headed by Talyzin, first deputy of the chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Chairman of Gosplan. A number of economists and scientists are among its members. For instance, there is Abalkin, corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences and director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Economic Institute, and I as an academician and head of the economic department [of the USSR Academy of Sciences].

Apart from this, a research department was set up which rests on an entire network of research establishments. These include not just the institutes of the Academy of Sciences but also those of Gosplan, the Ministry of Finance, the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, the State Committee on Prices, and so on. Scientists who are professionally involved in planning issues work here. They come not just from Moscow, but also from Kiev, Novosibirsk, and so on. This research department is headed by an academician and a secretary of the economic department. In it, we discuss various fundamental issues concerning the restructuring and we pass the outcome of these discussions to superior bodies. This, therefore, a way in which it is organized.

There is a wide participation of a broad circle of scientists and workers from the higher educational establishments. Other institutions also participate in it. Our contribution to the restructuring of management could, of course, be much higher but, as you know, over the past years -- and these were the years of the development of negative trends -- our economic science lagged considerably behind and lost touch with life and practice. At present we are undergoing restructuring. However, we have to do it on the move. It is, of course, our fault for not being able to present a developed and broad conception right away. We needed 2 years of intensive work. In fact, it has been more than two years since the April plenum. It was intensive work, not just by the scientists but also by those involved in practical implementation. We had to carry out many experiments, analyze errors, and examine the experience of previous reforms, both our reforms and those of the socialist countries so that this work could culminate now, at the June plenum. It would have been nice if we were able to this 2 years ago. We would be much further ahead now. But we were not ready.

[Correspondent] Many people in our country have noticed the fact that the plenum discussed the need to develop socialism in a creative way. Where do you see the key to the effective utilization of human resources?

[Aganbegyan] The main problem in our socialist conditions is how to ensure that a man works in social production just as well as he works for himself. In fact, he should even work better, because as Marx said: A certain additional force of production arises in a collective precisely because the work of a collective is at issue.

So, how do we achieve the feeling that man is a master in the socialist collective and that he works as a master -- as if he worked for himself? How do we achieve the incentives for his own development, and how to make people interested in their work? This the most important thing. This is not, however, a unanimous answer. There cannot be just a single move which is of importance. It is, of course, necessary to rebuild the system of work remuneration. It is necessary to pay for the results. He who works better must get more. The collective which works more efficiently and makes a better use of resources has to get a higher reward too -- a reward for its work. This is the first phase of restructuring.

It is necessary to achieve that the principle each according to this abilities and each according to his merits will be applied in a complex way. It must not be just a phrase. Each according to his abilities! We must give an opportunity to people to get fully involved and to utilize all their abilities. However, remuneration according to merit is certainly not the only way of resolving this key problem, that is, how to turn people into the masters of their work-places.

It is necessary to change the approach to socialist property, so that it will be treated by people as their own. The strtiving for self-management is of great importance in this context too, because the meaning of self-management is that people identify themselves with the collective and with its successes when they realize that everything depends on them. Therefore, it is also the development of democratic traditions which is at issue. This is very important. The entire situation within the society -- that is integration and self-financing -- has to be subordinated to this. On the other hand, people have to have a large selection of consumer goods and services for the money they have earned. In general, all conditions connected with this aspect have to be changed, so that people will feel as masters at their places of work. They must have a chance to buy a wide range of goods and services for the money they have earned. They must have a chance of imporving their living conditions, in addition to that which will be provided by the state, to improve their health and to make the most of their vacation. They must have an interest in working better and thus in improving their earnings and their life. It is precisely this line that has been taken by these developments. But apart from these purely material interests, people are also growing in a spiritual way in our socialist society. The following moral factors play a big role: the feeling that one is needed by the collective and the feeling of one's own value. The conscience is, as some say, an economic asset. Education is of great importance in this context. We are currently carrying out a reform of our secondary education. The main platform of this reform is inculcating work habits -- the need to work and the approch to the property of society. This means there many mutually interwoven paths which have to be followed in order to turn a man into a master.

[Correspondent] Rather sharp criticism of these who, through their inactivity, are virtually sabotaging the restructuring was heard at the June plenum. It was said that the working people are worried about the slow pace of implementation of the changes. How would you, in this context, assess the 2-year period and where, in your opinion, does the guarantee of final success lie?

[Aganbegyan] Marx commenced his Das Kapital with the words that each beginning is difficult. Indeed, the beginnings are very difficult because it is not sufficient simply to announce the policy of acceleration of socioeconomic development and to state why it is necessary to implement restructuring. We have to work out the methods, the means, and the forms of this restructuring. At the same time it is an unknown path. We must transfer from administrative to economic methods. But we have never experienced the conditions created by the economic methods. In the meantime, we do not know how to conduct our work through economic methods. Therefore, we must understand what kind of methods they are. This is why we conducted the experiments and tried to test these methods. After this, when the substance of these experiments became clear to us, we had to generalize them and now we have to work out their specific forms. It was precisely the June plenum which represented the culmination of this 2-year-long stage, during which a new conception of the leadership had been crystallizing. We now have a sufficiently tangible and detailed understanding of what we wish to achieve, where the economic methods of management lie and how our new and comprehensive system of management will function. This is a matter of development. On the whole, we have just passed through this stage.

We are now beginning to implement it. We have developed the necessary ways, methods, and forms of restructuring and we are turning to their widespread and practical implementation. We are, so to speak, turning words into deeds. And this is, of course, a very complex stage, too. It is a complex and seemingly most demanding stage.

Where lies the hope of the irreversibility of such restructuring? The main hope rests in the democratization of our society. If restructuring is only a kind of armchair chat, then several leading figures might meet, make a decision, which can, however, be changed tomorrow. But when the restructuring becomes a matter of all and is underway everywhere, when it is not only top-ranking figures or groups which represent its moving force but when the centers from which it is developing are scattered everywhere around the country, then just try to halt such a process.

It is almost impossible. Therefore, democratization is the main motive force of restructuring. I see the main guarantee of restructuring in the fact that wide groups of our population, working people and working collectives, have joined the efforts toward restructuring.

There are also other symptoms of the increase in the width and depth of restructuring. If one wants to really change something one must critically assess the past and understand what went wrong. This is not pleasant especially when when there were negative trends in the past and one lived in that time, and not only lived, but held a senior position. Today one must bear responsibility for it.

It is unpleasant to speak about the past if only for the fact that it is embarrassing to put all blame on the past. Everyone is inclined to have 20/20 hindsight. But where were they then? Well you know how this happens. We have carried out a merciless analysis of the past. Why? Because of the future, to be able to advance. We must look into the eyes of the truth and make a correct assessment of the past. There is no advancement possible without this. We have therefore carried out this analysis and we keep coming back to the past. We are coming back to the analysis of the shortcomings to find out how the slowing down mechanism was born. Why do we do it? We are doing this to take a lesson from it so we do not repeat the shortcomings again.

Another symptom -- for 2 years we have been continuously following the path of deepening and expanding restructuring. To start with it was the huge impulse and the beginning of all beginnings, the April plenum. Then in June the meeting on scientific-technical advancement took place where a new structural scientific-technical policy was formed. That was followed by the 27th CPSU Congress where all this was reinforced, developed, and expressed in figures for the 12th 5-Year Plan and in specific actions that had to be carried out. The January plenum was of great importance to us. This was a program plenum, a plenum of the way toward democratization. Now there is finally the June plenum. Comrade Gorbachev has already said that one plenum in the near future will be devoted to 13th 5-Year Plan. This will be worked out on a democratic basis, according to the law on Enterprises and other legal provisions. Also, the issue of convening the All-Union Party Conference for 28 June 1983 was settled. This will be an All-Union Forum of Communists at which the assessment of the implementation of the 5-year plan will be carried out. it will be just in the middle of it. This will provide a new stimulus for discussing the results of restructuring. The second factor is further democratization. So, we have no mapped out our further steps and we are expanding and deepening restructuring.

[Correspondent] Is the restructuring process slow?

[Aganbegyan] Yes. We wish it was faster but you know I was rather impressed by the meeting of Comrade Gorbachev with the directors of enterprises where I was also present. PRAVDA wrote about that meeting.

[Correspondent] What did the directors say there?

[Aganbegyan] Mikhail Sergeyevich asked how the restructuring is going. They all said that the process was moving too slowly, that it should advance faster. But then when they thought again they said: If somebody told me 2 years ago that I would be able to manage 60 percent of hard current income, that I would have such a large fund for advancement, that I could do this, and that, I would never have believed it. Therefore, on the one hand, restructuring seems slow because naturally, as we advance we would like to do more and faster. On the other hand, restructuring is moving on, it really does go on, and people feel it. However, this is a beginning and not all feel as strongly as necessary, and not everywhere. There are areas and entire sections that are not sufficiently affected by restructuring. It is creative and complicated work, it is actually a revolutionary process, a revolutionary change.

[Correspondent] The necessity to utilize the experience of all friends in the USSR national economy was discussed again at the plenum. To what extent are the specific conditions of your big country and that of small socialist countries comparable? Are there any problems with utilizing the experience of the other countries?

[Aganbegyan] You know the core of this problem is the way in which we will utilize the experience of others. If the subject is to be mechanical copying, on a one-to-one ration, this is impossible in the current economic systems. Naturally, when we look at Czechoslovakia, for example, it is a different country with its own historically created economic and social forms. But if we comprehend the utilization of experience as a critical study and a creative application, then a lot can be done.

Take for example the development of agriculture in the socialist countries like Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and in the others. In our country our agriculture is backward. The findings of science and technology are poorly utilized and our yields are small, while in your country the results are very good. You have rather good yields, your milk yield is high, scientific findings are well utilized. Hungary has the experience of utilizing self-management and coordinating this experience with the collective sector. This has not been successful in our country.

The foundation of big scientific-technical firms in the economy has also been unsuccessful. Take, for example, the well-known Babolna firm in Hungary where chickens are bred or the Corn Growers Association, of the well-known Slusovice in Czechoslovakia which actually is an agro-industrial combine -- we are trying to create something similar in our country. So far we can cite the examples of the Novomoskovskiy combine or the Kuban combine.

Also take the example of the GDR's experience in the formation of big combines in which science, technology, and production are integrated. The best combines have direct contacts with the world market and are in the vanguard of scientific-technical advancement. A lot can be learned from them.

What about the experience of the socialist countries in saving material resources? We are very much behind in this area. All socialist countries greatly reduced their specific consumption of oil, heavy engineering fuel, oil derivatives, and of energy as such and we are well behind in this too.

Experiences worked out in a creative way can be widely utilized and therefore we seriously study the experience of the others. In this, the size of an individual country is not very important. We also make use of our individual enterprises such as the Volga vehicle plant or the Frunze scientific and production association in Sumy. These were the first enterprises that changed onto the system of self-financing and their experiences are now utilized.

Let us look at the experience of foreign trade, economic relations in foreign trade: For a long time we had a sort of economy that was half-closed. Even now it is not too open to the world. For example, in your country or in the GDR you have great experience regarding foreign trade, contacts and the creation of competitive products. All in all, there are many things that can be learned. It is however necessary to approach this in the right way and to also take into consideration the specific conditions of our country.

[Correspondent] Let me ask you the last question. All your life you have been professionally studying the economy and you have lived through various times. You could hardly be surprised by anything. Yet, I want to ask you: What has surprised you the most during the last 2 years?

[Aganbegyan] To tell you the truth, we believed that sooner or later a fundamental restructuring had to take place. We did not know the word restructuring. We used to use the term fundamental change or something similar. But it was clear that to continue to manage things as we used to under the conditions of slowing down the rate of and the stagnation of the living standard, actually in the pre-crisis stage, with an insufficient standard of public information, that this could not go on for long. Everybody was aware that we were lagging behind, that we made no proper use of our potential in socialist countries. Therefore, the change in policy was ripening and expected. Therefore it was not such a surprise.

But to tell you the truth, the depth of this change, the way it embraces all spheres, and in particular the course toward democratization, the release of all resources and potential -- I still did not expect such a profound change. I thought that it would be a slower process. In spite of this I could not quite say that I was surprised by it because we are now becoming aware that life itself forced us to do it. But still, I was surprised. You know, when we were preparing this June plenum we kept saying that we would expand the rights of the enterprises but the issues of restructuring prices, of finances, of material-technical supplies -- to these issues we paid less attention.

We kept thinking that this was a radical reform of management but the other elements of the economy -- that is prices and finances -- are perhaps to be improved, changed in some way, but the word reform was not used in this connection. To tell you the truth, I expected a big exchange of views and sharp conflicts when we were working out the ideas of fundamental reforms in prices, in the financial-credit mechanism, in the sharp change toward wholesale as the really basic form.

I think that the adoption of this ideology of radical reforms in price planning, of planning finances, of banking, of credit -- the adoption of which was not as painful as I thought it would be -- this was a certain surprise for me. A pleasant surprise.

I must say, oversall, that economic experts and the management of the Gosplan, the Ministry of Finances, and the Prices Committee used to be in different camps to some extent. We kept accusing each other of this or that. Our ideas were not accepted. Now, in our country a group of people with the same views gradually arising. You know, for example, there is no difference between my views and those of various senior managers, for example, Pavlov, the new chairman of the Price Committee. He is a doctor of economic sciences and we could swap places without any problem. He is a scientist like myself. We have the same views.

There is also Sitaryan, corresponding member of our academy and first deputy chairman of the Gosplan, who in this very committee is tackling the issues of restructuring. We hold approximately the same views, perhaps only of different individual orientations or sympathies, but in essence a group has emerged here of people holding the same views.

Recently, Academician Csikos-Nagy, the well-known Hungarian economist and reformer, visited our country. He was one of the innovators, authors of the well-known economic reform in Hungary of 1968. For a long time he was in charge of the Hungarian Prices Committee and was regarded, let us say, as the most radical of the economists, who were the driving force behind the reform. He visited our country on many occasions and knows our leading officials. The last time he visited our country he was accompanied by the chairman of the Scientific Society of Economits in Hungary. While here, I organized for him meetings with leading officials of the Gosplan, the Prices Committee, the Committee for Material and Technological Supplies, with the new leading officials. When we had a discussion last time he told me: Had anyone told me that everything would change in the Soviet Union within such a brief period, that there would be new people, leading officials, professionals, with whom I could talk in the same language, which is exactly what had not existed only a few years ago, I would not have believed at all that this was possible. This is also a surprise, a surprise that lies in a certain convergence, an integration of the economic science and of central economic authorities. You know, we now hold joint meetings, for instance of the State Bank Collegium and the Bureau of the Economic Department of the Academy. These kind of things could not have been done before at all. Or there are meetings between our bureau and the collegium of the prices Committee. We cooperate and draw up joint documents. I cannot say that I am more left wing or more revolutionary; this I cannot say, although I would like to believe that I have maintained my radicialism, revolutionary orientation, let us say, the Siberian school. But everything is changing now and the situation is such that there exists here a certainty and optimism that we will bring this whole matter to an end, although there will certainly still be difficulties as well as mistakes, shortcomings. There will probably be steps not only forward but also probably enforced retreats. This is a revolutionary matter, painful, complicated, difficult, and innovative and a fundamentally new one. But according to the pace set by our Central Committee, according to the course taken by its plenum, to which I was also invited and listened with interest to all speeches, I have acquired great optimism.

[Correspondent] Allow me to thank you for the interview and wish you many successes.

[Aganbegyan] Thank you.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS ABALKIN ON REFORMS

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[Interview with Leonid Abalkin, chief of the Economics Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by editors Walter Knips and Joerg Mettke in Moscow; no date given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Professor Abalkin, if you were to give the Soviet economy a grade, as is done at school -- where for Russian children a five means very good and a one very bad -- what grade would you give the economy?

Abalkin: A three.

SPIEGEL: Meaning satisfactory. Why?

Abalkin: Such grades of course are always subjective. As a university professor I gave many grades. And those whom I gave a five in many cases did not become the best scientists or economic managers. So, why a three, and not two, four, or five? In the late seventies and early eighties our economy had to go through a severe ordeal. However, now we are registering initial signs of improvement, and I hope that in the nineties I can give our economy a grade four. A five would hardly be possible because perfection in that field is almost impossible.

SPIEGEL: Are there any national economies to which you would give a better grade than just satisfactory?

Abalkin: You have to take the different social systems into account. Capitalist and socialist economies are not easily comparable. All socialist economies have had to go through difficult times. I would not now give any of them good marks. Among the capitalist countries, I would assess the Japanese highest of all.

SPIEGEL: What do you find so extraordinary about the Japanese economy?

Abalkin: First of all, its dynamic nature. In addition, its high labor productivity, the quality and variety of its products. The Japanese methods of management are very interesting, not only those of individual companies, but also national strategy on the whole. It is very successful.

SPIEGEL: General Secretary Gorbachev has now prescribed a basic economic reform for the Soviet Union. Hardly anyahing will continue the way it was for many decades, when it was considered good and right -- neither the price system nor the planning system, neither the wage structure nor the credit system. Why the changes even though the Soviet economy until recently boasted of its "superiority" and "outstanding growth rate" -- quoting from a booklet published in 1983?

Abalkin: I could cite many more examples from booklets of that type than you. They contain enough half-truths to fill entire volumes. In our development there was unfortunately a time when the economic trend was in one direction, and the slogans in booklets, books, and newspapers in an entirely different direction. The high growth rate we had at one time did not exist anymore at the end of the seventies. In order to explain the reasons that we need economic reform, I would have to give a lecture now.

SPIEGEL: Would it be possible for you to explain it in brief?

Abalkin: I cannot entirely leave history out. Our present planning and price system developed in the thirties. However, meanwhile the economy totally changed. Its dimension, economic-technological developments, and the people's education are totally different. It is as if you wanted an adult to wear children's clothes. He would be unable to run and move properly. That is why we have to adjust the management system to the new conditions. We must admit, however, that the tailor of the child's outfit also made mistakes.

SPIEGEL: Gorbachev has urged radical reform. Would that be necessary at all if the job just was to improve the economy to allow it to get better grades? Shouldn't the conclusion be that the performance is considered totally unsatisfactory?

Abalkin: If you had asked that question 5 years ago, I would have said you were right. But we began with perestrolka 2 or 3 years ago. Since then, the situation has improved -- not radically, but some. The negative assessments by Comrade Gorbachev refer in particular to the late seventies and early eighties. For example, agriculture has had initial successes in grain production and cattle breeding. The construction industry is also making headway now. On the whole, the tendency is slightly upward.

SPIEGEL: Now the enterprises' responsibilities will be strengthened at the expense of the central decisionmaking bodies, in particular the ministries. Is that not a late admission that the crucial achievement of communism, which has always been praised -- public ownership of the means of production -- in reality only existed on paper?

Abalkin: I am ready to admit that for many decades we had a too-highly centralized economic management. However, we also should ask ourselves whether a different option would also have been possible at the time and whether such centralization really would not have been necessary in the thirties.

SPIEGEL: What do you think?

Abalkin: Our analyses are not yet concluded, but I think I can already say now that strong centralization was really necessary at the time, even though by far not to the extent that it was actually practiced. Regarding public owenership, it was often just a formality.

SPIEGEL: In a planned economy, how do you intend to achieve the enterprises' own responsibility? Do you not have to introduce a market economy and abandon the planned economy?

Abalkin: No doubt we need market economy methods. We need a really functioning socialist market. Many market economy elements such as supply and demand and contractually negotiated prices will have to be introduced here. At the same time, we will also have to change our planned economy methods. However, the point for us is not the alternative of either plan or market.

SPIEGEL: How are the planned and market economy to be made compatible?

Abalkin: I do not have to explain to representatives in a big country that is the origin of classical dialectics that opposites are not mutually exclusive but mutually conditional. But flexible, modern planning and market economy elements can very well complement each other. That would be more complicated and more subtle than the mechanism that we have gotten used to, but it certainly would also be more efficient.

SPIEGEL: In the future what decisions will Soviet enterprises be allowed to make on their own?

Abalkin: Formerly an enterprise's 5-year plan had to be approved by the ministry. In the future, the enterprise will be doing that on its own responsibility. Formerly an enterprise received detailed orders as to what had to be produced. Now it will receive orders from the state only for a specific part of its production. Some factories such as shoe or clothing manufacturers will not be subject at all anymore to orders by the state about their production. What they have to produce will depend on consumers' decisions.

SPIEGEL: Will enterprises also be allowed to fix prices?

Abalkin: Formerly all prices were dictated to enterprise. Today they have the right to negotiate prices for many products with their customers. However, the prices for goods produced by order of the state will continue to be fixed by the state. That is the case with raw materials and energy resources, for example. Prices for certain consumer goods such as bread, sugar, or meat are fixed by the state, which thus guarantees the existing living standard. But the major part of the prices will be fixed by the enterprises themselves. In the future they will be equally responsible for fixing their wages and for planning their investments.

SPIEGEL: Will the state as a customer always be given preferential treatment, or will it have to compete with private customers for supplies?

Abalkin: There are a number of fields where the state does take precedence, for instance in the weapons industry, the only customer of which is the state. Or, take the school uniform in our country; On each 1 September children need their school uniforms. We have to make sure that every family can buy those things at reasonable prices.

SPIEGEL: So you order a clothing manufacturer to produce such uniforms, although the low prices does not even cover its costs?

Abalkin: No, we have to encourage them to accept such an order. For example, we can exempt them from taxes. We can launch a competition by inviting tenders for such products. But on the whole, the percentage of direct orders by the state is to be reduced.

SPIEGEL: To what rate?

Abalkin: I think nobody is able to give an exact answer to that question today. There are still very different ideas about it in our country. Maybe the state's share will be about 30 percent in the initial phase.

SPIEGEL: How long will it take it to change over to that new system?

Abalkin: We are in a very difficult period of transition, with old and new methods still simultaneously in operation. But we hope we will have made the changeover within 3 years, by the beginning of the next 5-year plan.

SPIEGEL: But it is said that even then there will be no basic changes. You keep prices down artificially for basic foodstuffs, public transportation, and apartment rents by granting vast subsidies that currently amount to R73 billion.

Abalkin: As a matter of fact, in our country consumer prices for food are lower than producer prices. The difference is made up by state subsidies. If we introduce higher prices in that field, then we must find a solution for families with low incomes, old-age pensioners, and students. That is a difficult issue. Look, our people have grown accustomed to the existing price system in the course of some decades. And we have always stressed it as a merit of socialism that those goods are so cheap in our country. Changing over to new price arrangements now, with meat costing double the previous price means it is very important for the people to be psychologically prepared for the necessity of such changes.

SPIEGEL: Soviet citizens will hardly be happy about that. If they have to spend more money for everyday goods, then there is not enough left to buy luxury goods on the black market.

Abalkin: Do you assume the black market will continue to exist? We want to abolish it! Why should such an intermediary dealer rake in the profit from the sale of fashionable and status goods -- why not the state nor the cooperative? What is most important is that people are enabled, as a result of the economic reform, to earn enough money in the future to buy dearer goods in the regular shops.

SPIEGEL: What new functions do the ministries and the supreme planning office, Gosplan, have? What did functions will they keep?

Abalkin: Central planning actually has two functions: First, preparing an overall plan for the development of the national economy. It has to set targets and fix priorities, thus determining economic strategy. Its second function is urging the enterprises to implement them. Heretofore Gosplan has specified every detail to the enterprise about what they should and what they should not do. Therefore, there was no time for strategy and Gosplan did a very bad job strategically. You could call it simply unsatisfactory.

Planners filled masses of paper with detailed instructions, for example how many men's and how many women's shoes should be produced. How many for summer and how many for winter, how many simple and how many fashionable ones. That was pure administration.

SPIEGEL: Does that mean that the Gosplan bureaucrats, who are feared all over the country, must change their ways?

Abalkin: Yes, they will be expected to work primarily on strategic tasks. It was not by accident that I spoke of Japan at the beginning of our talk, where such a strategy really exists. There shall be no more administering to a degree where entrepreneurical details are determined.

SPIEGEL: How many of those 34 "planning reference numbers" [Plankennziffern] that came down from the top must still be fulfilled by the plants?

Abalkin: The number 34 is a myth. I was recently in Moscow's Sil auto factory. There, 1,500 reference numbers established at the top had to be heeded. The new law on national enterprises provides for reference numbers in the future. Moreover, they will have the sole function of providing guidelines...

SPIEGEL: ...thus remaining noncommittal?

Abalkin: Yes. They are no longer the yardstick for measuring whether the plan was fulfilled or not. What remains as a binding matter is the national mission of some enterprises, which I have already discussed. What remains are the general obligations to make profit and to achieve high productivity. Additionally, there are guiding principles.

SPIEGEL: What does that mean?

Abalkin: Very simple. First a certain percentage of the profit must be paid over to the national budget. Unlike previously, no contribution of a certain amount or millions of rubles is fixed, but just the percentage of the profit that is taxed. That percentage will depend on profitability.

SPIEGEL: Some sort of progressive profit tax?

Abalkin: Indeed. For a 15 percent gain, the tax is 30 percent. For a 20 percent gain, let us say that 33 percent in taxes must be paid, and so on. There will also be a progressive income tax.

SPIEGEL: And others?

Abalkin: Second, salary will depend on net production value. For example, from every ruble, 40 kopecks will be paid to the salary fund. The amount available for salaries is not a fixed and absolutely planned quantity anymore. It depends on the economic success of the enterprise.

SPIEGEL: How should your managers, who are accustomed to an economy that follows orders, suddenly know how to make a profit, how to achieve gains, how to look for sales markets, and how to assess risks? Where should the new managers come from, and how can the old ones procure the newly required skills?

Abalkin: Surely you know the answer yourself. Only life can teach them. At any rate it cannot be learned from books. One must put the people in a situation that forces them to act on their own. There is no other way.

SPIEGEL: Tests of the new management model have been conducted, for example, at the Sumy Machine Combine in eastern Ukraine. What were the results of that test?

Abalkin: The Sumy results are most promising. The problem with such experiments is that one cannot implement them under pure laboratory conditions. As long as nothing has changed about the price system, the financing system, and the general performance system, the effectiveness of the new methods is very hard to assess. A test does not prove the usefulness of a new system. On the other hand the fact that in the old system there were well functioning enterprises, does not prove that the system itself is good as a whole.

SPIEGEL: However, enterprises that are supposed to make a profit also run the risk of losses. Will there be bankruptcies?

Abalkin: Yes, they will be.

SPIEGEL: Some 13 percent of all soviet enterprises have losses, some have had them for years. If they are closed, what will happen to the workers and the then unemployed bureaucrats from the central administration?

Abalkin: The figure is correct, but it does not say much, because also in the old system I could have made many of those enterprises profitable overnight. Among the 13 percent is the whole coal industry, for example. It has no profits because the state has set the coal price so low. If I raised the prices tomorrow, they would all make profits again.

However, it will not be simple to reorganize individual enterprises that have losses. If it is a management matter, the collectives will elect a new and better one. If it is a matter of outdated equipment, and a number of enterprises are suffering from it, the firm could possibly be integrated in a bigger combine that could ensure the necessary modernization.

SPIEGEL: And if all that does not help?

Abalkin: If an enterprise is hopelessly sick, it must be closed. People who will be then dismissed will get a certain support for a limited period of time amounting to their average salary. In addition there will retraining measures.

SPIEGEL: How many bankruptcies do you expect?

Abalkin: There will not be many. However, the danger exists that enterprises might be closed. When the working people realize that the jobs they are used to are really endangered, they will fight to keep them.

SPIEGEL: Will there be different pay depending on efficiency and individual performance? Who will decide on the individual's efficiency?

Abalkin: It will be decided by a brigade, a workers collective consisting of 15-80 men and women. They will know best who has worked well and who has worked poorly. However, as decisions will be made in the presence of all, there is the danger of egalitarianism.

SPIEGEL: Recently the Soviet Union has favored joint ventures with capitalist enterprises. How does that match the communist conviction that all means of production belong in the hands of the people?

Abalkin: We see no ideological obstacles. As to public ownership of the means of production, we are beginning to think realistically there too. The decisive criterion is efficiency. On it alone depends whether everything, half of it, or just one third will be socialized. If the joint ventures safeguard a higher degree of efficiency, they will correspond to the necessary level of socialization.

SPIEGEL: How many joint ventures are there already?

Abalkin: I cannot give you a precise figure of already concluded contracts, but there cannot be many yet. However, many talks and negotiations are being held at present, and so it could happen that the number of firm agreements will increase suddenly.

SPIEGEL: Are you not fostering false hopes if, with joint ventures, you aim particularly for export business and higher foreign currency gains? Western enterprises want most of all to achieve access to the enormous Soviet domestic market.

Abalkin: There is a certain conflict of interest. However, if it is said that we are only interested in hard currency, that is not precise. We also want modern technology to be supplied to us for the domestic market, the best that is now available on the world market.

SPIEGEL: However, that is mostly embargoed under the Cocom list, which bans the export of all militarily exploitable products and production procedures from the West to socialist countries.

Abalkin: That is another question. We insist on the establishment of joint ventures with guarantees that we will receive the very best products.

SPIEGEL: Do you fear the West could dump excess stock on the Soviet Union?

Abalkin: Yes. However, if we see that production can be sold on the world market, we will know that we did not get any second-rate material.

SPIEGEL: Do you see the possibility of making the ruble a convertible currency some day, even at the risk that it could drop considerably on international money markets?

Abalkin: First it must be perceived that it will become convertible. Only thereafter could one fear its devaluation. I do see that from a far perspective. Well, what does far mean -- maybe in 15 years. We will begin by introducing convertibility in the Council of Mutual Economic Aid (CEMA).

SPIEGEL: Why must it take so long until the ruble can be freely converted into marks and dollars?

Abalkin: We want to develop our machine-building industry into the mid-nineties so that 90 percent of the products will be up to the world standard. Until then we want to cut our grain purchasing considerably and at the same time decisively improve the quality of consumer goods. Our labor productivity should be doubled by the year 2000. When we have mastered all those tasks, we should have no fear that the Soviet economy could be undermined through a freely convertible ruble.

SPIEGEL: Professor Abalkin, we thank you for this talk.

LATE JUNE WEATHER, CROP STATUS REVIEWED

PM081141 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Jul 87 p 2

[Agrometeorologist N. Ignatova report: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] During the last third of June moderately warm weather with heavy rain prevailed in the western part of the USSR's European territory. In the eastern half, on the other hand, the weather was hot and predominantly dry. Rain (between 11 and 35 mm) fell only during the last few days of the 10-day period. Over most of the Ukraine (excluding northwestern rayons), Moldavia, the North Caucasus, the Central Chernozem and the Volga region (south of Kazan) grains were forming on winter wheat. Winter rye reached the milky ripeness stage. Winter wheat reached the waxy ripeness stage in the south of Moldavia, Stavropol Kray, the south of Krasnodar Kray, the southest of Rostov Oblast, and the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus. This phase was reached there at about the normal time or slightly later. In the North Caucausus spring barley has reached the waxy ripeness stage.

In most corn growing areas corn is building up green bulk. The reserves of productive moisture total between 60-80 mm in the top 50 cm of soil and more than 120 mm in the top 100 cm. Buckwheat is flowering in many places. Plant development continues to be 7-10 days ahead of normal. Conditions for tuber and haulm formation in potato growing zones were favorable on the whole.

In the USSR's European territory tomatoes are flowering and on the lower trusses fruit is forming and growing. Estimates and an analysis of the prevailing agrometeorological conditions indicate that by the end of June the line where tomatoes have reached flesh-colored or marketing ripeness will link Zhitomir, Orel, Ivanovo, and Kostroma. In the Transcaucausus and the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus early apples have ripened in some places. Picking of cherries, apricots, morello cherries, and peaches continues in the south. Heavy rain with hail and wind has created unfavorable conditions for the ripening of fruit in vineyards in the Ukraine, Moldavia, and the North Caucasus.

Over most of Kazakhstan and in western oblasts of the agricultural zone of West Siberia hot weather prevailed with average air temperatures 4-8 degrees above the norm. Precipitation ocurred in a number of oblasts in Kazakhstan and especially in Siberia. The hot weather which has become settled in Tyumen and Omsk oblasts and over most of the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan has accelerated the development of spring grain crops. In Uralsk and Aktyubinsk Oblasts ear formation has been observed, and stalk growth elsewhere. Harvesting of flowering gramineous and leguminous grasses was under way. In East Siberia and the Transbaykal region the weather was cold and rainy over most of the 10-day period.

Relatively low air temperatures in Central Asia and the South of Kazakhstan held up the development of cotton. In the second half of the 10-day period temperatures rose and the conditions for cotton growth improved. On most cotton plantations bud formation and growth continued with good moisture reserves in the soil. After the second cutting alfafa is growing well here, and in southern parts of the region it is beginning to flower having reached a height of 60-70 cm after the third cutting.

'RENTAL CONTRACT' SCHEME BENEFITS KAZAKH FARMERS

PM291341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 2

[G. Shipitko report: "Team Signs Rental Contract"]

[Text] Kokchetav Oblast -- There were things to think about when A. Sayapin, director of the "Zlatogorskiy" Sovkhoz, suggested last year changing to another form of economic relations between team leaders and the administration. Its essence is as follows: The teams rent land, equipment, stock, and other material assets from the farm, in short, everything which they dealt with previously. "You farm," the director explained, "and we will buy your produce from you and sell it to the state."

In resporse to the first agitated question: "How will wages be fixed?" -- came the answer: "They will be determined by the quantity and quality of the output and the amount expended on its production. You are paid 70 percent of the resources saved and the sovkhoz keeps 30 percent for itself as rental charge for the use of the land."

The majority of those present immediately grasped the essence and the advantage of the new relations.

The idea did not emerge from a vacuum, V. Osipenko, first secretary of the Arykbalykskiy Party Raykom, said. First the farm organized contractual links and teams. People rapidly appreciated their advantages: Labor productivity increased appreciably, the yield from land and stockraising units grew.

The next step was the introduction of a system of paying the labor force according to the final results in all the farm's subunits, including the specialists and leaders. The results were even more weighty -- here they began to successfully fulfill plans for the producton of grain, meat, and milk.

And then the next step, which can be called the final link of economic accountability [khozyaystvennogo rascheta], which has been called the "rental contract." The basis of this is the rational, sensible use of production resources, a high degree of labor organization, and a desire to obtain more output for the smallest outlay. Would it appear that there is something new here? These demands had been made of the collective before. Nevertheless there is a novelty. It lies in the fact that everything must be paid for out of the team's pockets. If, for example, you have to bring fodder to the livestock unit, you pay for transport and write out a check, which will be taken into account at the end of the month in the sovkhoz bookkeeping. If you need equipment repairs or require a tractor, again you pay.

In other words, relactions between the sovkhoz subunits are based on reciprocal payments. But if a service offered is carried out badly or to a low standard, then the cost of the damage is recovered from the team guilty of the shoddy workmanship. Does this mean that it is uneconomical and disadvantageous to work badly?

Yes, that is just the case, V. Fartovskiy, chairman of the Kokchetav Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee confirmed. "Suffice it to say that in comparison with the same period last year, the sovkhoz is now producing R65,000 worth more output and expenditure has been reduced by R120,000. And one more figure. On average, a machine operator in the oblast produces R20,000 worth of output, whereas on a rental contract the figure is five to six times higher.

This, in my opinion, displays more fully the principle of economic accountability [khozraschet]: the collective's pay comes from the gross revenue, part of which the farm acquires in the form of rent for the use of the land, machinery, and other basic production resources. And each worker endeavors to produce not only more but also high quality output. Then his earnings will also be higher.

Now this labor organization has been introduced on seven farms in the oblast. And by the end of the year it is proposed to rent out one-third of the land to teams and sections.

There is one other advantage of this kind of labor organization: its cost cutting -- on average it is 10 percent cheaper to produce output in these subunits. This is R500,000 for each farm.

Now, as they say, there is only one thing left to do: to make this experience available to all the republic's farms. The higher the output from fields and livestock units, the richer and more diverse is our diet. This is direct interaction based on the new relations between the collective and the sovkhoz administration.

MEDIA REPORTS 28-30 JUNE AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD010626 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 28-30 June. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

29 June

Sown and natural grasses have been mowed on 500,000 hectares in Orenburg Oblast. (1300)

30 June

In Krasnodar Kray today selective reaping of winter barley begins; the crop occupies more than 250,000 hectares in the kray; from each hectare farmers plan to get no less than 40 quintals of grain. (0204)

The machine workers of Uzbekistan today began harvesting the second half of the area sown to grain. A good harvest has been cultivated in the republic. Andizhan Oblast agricultural workers are threshing 30 and more quintals on average. (0600)

The harvesting of winter grains has begun in North Ossetiya. Cutting and threshing of early mature barley began on the Mozdok steppes. (1030)

LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1866 EARTH SATELLITE REPORTED

LD100709 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0646 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 10 Jul (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1866, was launched in the Soviet Union on 9 July 1987.

The satellite carries scientific apparatus for continuing space research.

The satellite has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution: 89.8 minutes;
-- maximum distance from the earth's surface (apogee): 386 kilometres;
-- minimum distance from the earth's surface (perigee): 177 kilometres;
-- orbital inclination: 67 degrees.

Besides scientific apparatus, the satellite carries:

-- a radio system for the precise measurement of orbital elements;
-- a radiotelemetry system for transmitting to earth data about the work of the instruments and scientific apparatus.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally.

The coordinating and computing center is processing the incoming information.

COSMONAUTS USE NEW 'GLASAR' ULTRAVIOLET TELESCOPE

LD091756 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS -- Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin have carried out a series of experiments in extra-atmospheric astronomy. In this work they are using a set of new scientific equipment which was brought to the orbit by the astrophysical module "Kvant". The ultraviolet telescope Glasar is being prepared for operation.

A TASS correspondent has requested Professor Grant Tovmasyan, the scientific director of the "Glasar" project, the head of the laboratory of the Byurakan astrophysical observatory of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR to tell about the program of exploration of depths of outer space with the help of this unique instrument.

The professor said: Our experiment provides for the search of galaxies and quasars with strong ultraviolet emission. The very name "Glasar" is formed of the words "galaxy" and "Quasar."

The problem of the origin and development of stars and stellar systems -- galaxies and also quasars (which are, to all appearance, are also galaxies with very active nuclei) is one of the most topical in astrophysics. Explosions of a tremendous force occur, with active processes being under way in galaxy nuclei. A great quantity of substance erupts and a mighty emission takes place in different sections of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Astronomy is known to be a science of observation, and charts of the sky are needed to explore objects of that or other types. Observations done by various methods produce valuable material in this sense. The observation of the sky which was done in its time at the Byurakan observatory led to the discovery of the so-called Markaryan Galaxies with an excessive ultraviolet emission, observed from the earth. They attracted general attention and are now being explored at observatories of the world.

With the help of the "Glasar" telescope the cosmonauts will photograph a considerable part of the sky in the ultraviolet light which does not pass through the terrestrial atmosphere. We hope to discover objects which are not observed from the earth. It is planned at the same time to measure the intensity of ultraviolet emission of objects already known. All that will enrich our knowledge and help understand the nature of formation and evolution of stellar systems.

The "Glasar" telescope was designed by scientists and specialists of Armenia and made at industrial enterprises of the republic. Swiss colleagues from the Geneva observatory are taking part in the exploration program. The telescope's main mirror is 40 centimetres in diameter. It can help photograph objects the emission of which is hundreds thousands times weaker than that seen by the naked eye. Telescope stabilisation systems will help keep it during the photography in a pre-set direction with the precision of up to two seconds of arc.

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksander Laveykin will have only to approximately orient the telescope in the necessary direction: "Glasar" stabilisation systems will themselves zero in on the star. Photography can be done with the present exposure and automatically. The cosmonauts will have only to change the photographic film. The used films will be brought back to earth by transport spacecraft "Progress" or visiting crews.

Further on 'Mir' Flight

LD100834 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin are finishing their latest working week aboard the manned complex 'Mir'. Planned for today is a test fitting of the technological installation Kristillizator. According to their work schedule the cosmonauts are to replace one of the units for reconstituting water from condensate. The day before, a series of experiments on the Svetoblok installation was concluded. Today, the cosmonauts are to carry out a regular operation in the program of another biological experiment which is taking place in the space greenhouse Fiton. Also included in the day's schedule are geophysical experiments and medical check studies.

According to reports from orbit, work in space is proceeding according to the planned schedule.